

JAN 18 '44

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# THE Country GUIDE

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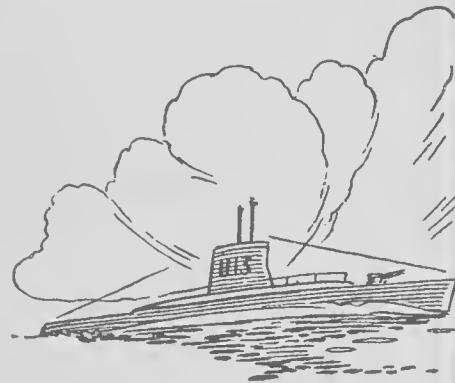
JANUARY

1944

...as I write  
this, I'm think-  
ing of those  
swell sleigh  
rides we used  
to have at New  
Year's. Here's  
hoping that by

this time next  
year we will  
all be celebrat-  
ing Victory and  
Peace. Your Pal,  
Joe West.  
Canadian Army  
overseas,  
January, 1944.

## HOW MANY TRIPS



*How many trips does a Food Ship make?* Perhaps two during a single month — perhaps more. Such information is not of greatest importance however.

It is what happens during the voyage that supplies the drama and interest—the real inside story. The black-as-pitch nights. The tense hours of the watch. The U-Boat encounter. The flashing speed of the Corvettes. The deadly depth charges. The irrevocable sinkings. The rescue of brave mariners. The thrill of arrival. The satisfaction of unloading cargo. . . . *How lifeless statistics are compared with the drama of events!*

The same is relatively true of the Farmer and his work. The story of the year's work can't be told in millions of bushels, in the number of trips made to the elevator, in the number of cattle and hog loadings.

The *real* story is in the fight against time and weather in the Spring, in the busy, anxious days of the harvest, the care and feeding of livestock and the endless chores of every day, both inside and outside.

Not always can the farmer's rewards be measured by duty faithfully performed. Sometimes the weather interferes, hail



## DOES A FOOD SHIP MAKE



and rust and other conditions outside the farmer's control ruin many a fair prospect.

In wartime, as now, when great areas of the world's farm lands are devastated and sown to ruin, farmers who are fortunate — as Canadian farmers are — to remain free, are called upon to increase their

production under the severe handicap of labor shortage. It is a case of "all hands to the plow" — including boys, girls, and women — mount the tractors, sow the seed, grow the food, provide the herds, boost production to undreamed-of levels . . . whole armies must be fed, navies and air forces, and civilian populations. Food must be rushed to famine areas as in Greece, India, and China. Unless this is done victory cannot be speeded and assured.

*Here lies the real story of the farmer's war effort.* It is a dramatic and interesting story. Its significance is apt to be lost in any mere record of statistics.

The working day of the average farmer and his family is filled with anxious, useful hours of purposeful accomplishment—never more vitally necessary than now, when grim battles must be waged upon the seas and continents of the world for the preservation of things which we hold dear.

# UNITED GRAIN GROWERS LTD

WINNIPEG

CALGARY

EDMONTON

SASKATOON

*Another in the series of announcements explaining the western farmer's contribution to Canada's war effort.*

# B.C.'s Varied Agricultural Problems

Farm income highest in the Province's history

By CHAS. L. SHAW

**P**OSTWAR rehabilitation, with special emphasis on the re-settlement of ex-soldiers and sailors on the land, may be one of the dominant issues for discussion when the British Columbia legislature re-assembles during the third week in January.

But rehabilitation, rural electrification and other constructive issues may be expected to be subordinated at least temporarily while matters of more direct political significance are dealt with, for the C.C.F. is feeling its oats and will probably be more vocal than ever. The recent utterances of Harold Winch, the C.C.F. leader, and other members of the party indicate that very few of the announced policies of the Hart coalition government will escape criticism from the left during the coming session.

Announcement at Ottawa that a floor price would be established for farm products was welcomed west of the Rockies, and general opinion was that could be enforced with no more difficulty than in the case of ceiling prices. In a sense, the federal order seems to extend the protection which fruit growers of British Columbia's Okanagan Valley have long enjoyed under their own marketing regulations.

Farmers are still without definite information as to how the government proposes to determine the floor prices, but it is conjectured that these will be set according to zone, making allowance for the variation in production costs as between one part of Canada and another. The main thing is that the principle of minimum as well as maximum prices has been recognized and that in itself is an important victory for Canadian agriculture.

#### The Mennonite Infiltration

Before the war the white residents of the Fraser Valley used to complain about the inroads of Japanese, who "infiltrated" from the fishing settlements at the mouth of the river and acquired productive small fruit lands in the Mission and Hatzic district. Pearl Harbor and subsequent events took care of the Japanese problem because all the Valley's people of that race were moved to the interior. But the Valley still has its problem, and this time the Mennonites, comparatively recent arrivals from the prairies, have created it.

The old-established, independent Fraser Valley farmer is beginning to feel the stiffened competition of his new Mennonite neighbors whose practice of community ownership and purchasing place their rivals at somewhat of a disadvantage. Just how the Mennonite issue can be handled is perplexing, but their somewhat exasperated neighbors have considered it serious enough to bring it before meetings of boards of trade and similar organizations in the lower mainland. The Mennonites, for their part, say they are merely making their homes in their own way.

During the past few weeks representative British Columbia and Alberta business men have been discussing plans for a more intimate and economically satisfactory integration of the two provinces' resources. About \$25,000,000 worth of business is being done between the coast and foothill provinces every year, the scales tipping slightly in Alberta's favor because of the heavier shipments of livestock and grain products westward. There is a feeling

that the two provinces are really complementary to one another and that this natural situation should be capitalized. In any event, the foundation has been laid for a more harmonious feeling and when the return of peace makes it possible to make some necessary adjustments in freight rates the volume of trade between B.C. and Alberta may be expected to take a sharp advance.

Potato growers in the lower Fraser Valley were plagued with the threat of surplus this year for two reasons: 1, Heavy production from Victory gardens in the Vancouver area. 2, Delay in getting dehydration plants in operation. However, the provincial government doesn't intend that there shall be any wastage of farm crops this year and has appointed a committee of departmental officials to make an investigation.

The impression is that the addition of several dehydration and processing plants at various key agricultural points such as the Okanagan and the Fraser Valley will go a long way in future years towards eliminating production surpluses.

#### Agriculture Passes Mining

Probably for the first time in recorded annals, the value of British Columbia's farm crops this year will exceed that of the province's mining production. The provincial government recently issued revised figures on the value of the 1942 harvest, giving a total of \$73,748,000, which is barely \$2,000,000 less than the output of the mines. The unofficial estimate is that this year the farmers' revenue in British Columbia will be about the same as last year, but mining officials report gloomily that the mines will be lucky to produce more than \$70,000,000, which gives agriculture a slight but emphatic edge.

Value of 1942 farm production was the highest in the province's history, showing a net gain of 26 per cent over 1941 and an advance of about \$10,000,000 over the next highest year—1929. Increases were recorded for farm animals, poultry and eggs, dairy products, fruit and vegetables, field crops, honey, wool, fur farming and seeds. A decrease was shown in tobacco.

Higher prices, of course, were the main factor for the increase, although volume showed a pickup in some instances. British Columbia was obliged to import more agricultural products than in the previous year—\$27,000,000 worth compared with \$21,000,000, but that is accounted for by the sharp increase in population as a result of war industries and the concentration of armed forces near the coast. B.C.'s farm produce exports were also higher in value—\$14,000,000, compared with \$11,600,000 in the previous year. The 1942 season was noted for its heavy production of fruit, nearly 321,500,000 pounds, worth \$12,200,000, compared with 271,258,000 pounds the previous year, valued at \$8,550,000. The season just terminated will probably not be quite so gratifying.

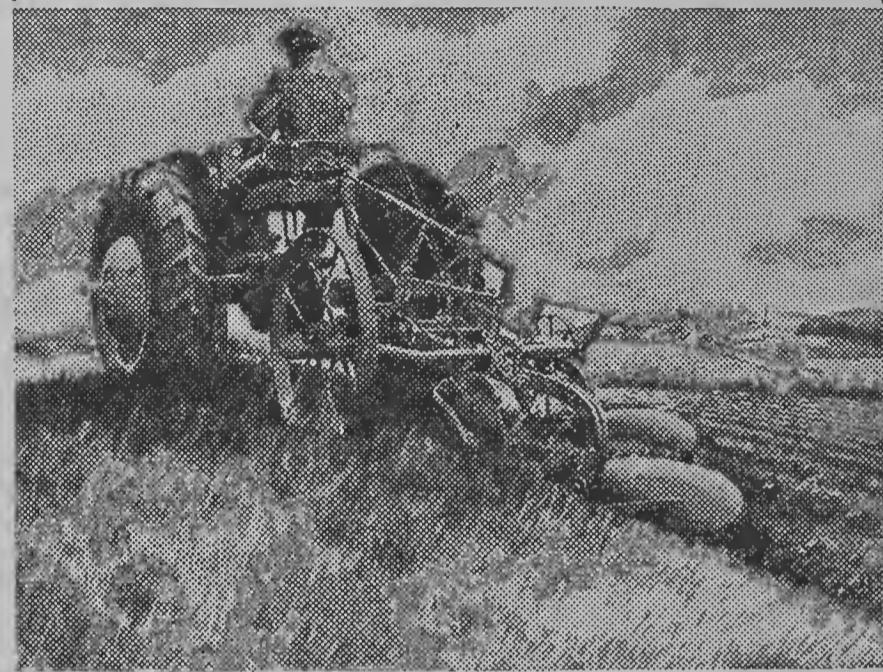
Some people may wonder why mining production has declined in wartime. The current slump is due primarily to the official discouragement of gold production, which has led to the shutdown of 18 of the 25 gold mines that were operating in British Columbia two years ago. Operators of these properties were unable to obtain sufficient labor, and there

were also delays and difficulties in getting equipment and supplies. Another factor is that the United Nations' supply of strategic metals is much better now than it was a year or so ago, meaning that there is no longer the pressing need for mining mercury, tungsten and other metals which might otherwise be adding to the province's mine revenue.



A very fine Peace River garden.

# The Plow Master will turn it faster TO HELP YOU GROW MORE IN '44



THIS year, when more acres must produce . . . when the whole tempo of farming must be speeded up . . . when you must get the job done . . . and hurry on to other pressing tasks . . . this is the year to ask your Oliver dealer about the Oliver Plow Master and about Raydex—the plow bottom with a factory machined point so inexpensive it can be thrown away when dull.

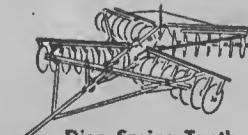
Built with fewer wearing parts, the Oliver Plow Master will last far longer, and do a better all-around job than the ordinary plow. Its bases of Raydex—acclaimed the first fundamental improvement in the steel plow since 1868—assure as much as 20% lighter draft, lay the furrow slice over in looser condition, and cover and scour better in a wider range of soils. Its Raydex points are replaceable, last as long as the conventional steel share, yet cost no more than the sharpening of an old-fashioned share. Here, indeed, is a time saver as well as a money saver.

As those sharp, gleaming Raydex bases slice through the soil behind an Oliver 60 or 70 tractor . . . easily, smoothly . . . and the fresh-turned furrows billow out in your wake, faster than you've ever plowed before, you'll understand why the Plow Master . . . strong and simply constructed . . . short coupled . . . light in draft . . . is one of the most efficient implements on thousands of American farms.

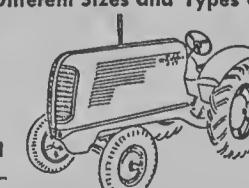
You'll probably be able to own an Oliver Plow Master—if you get your order in at once. And if you need replacement parts, better order them now and avoid waiting when you should be in the field. Oliver Farm Equipment Company, Regina, Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Winnipeg.

# OLIVER

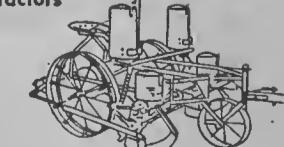
9 Different Sizes and Types of Tractors



Disc, Spring Tooth and Spike Tooth Harrows—



STURDY—THE OTHER WORD FOR OLIVER



1 and 2 Row Corn Planters

# System of Enterprise Deemed Best for Canada

S. H. Logan, President, The Canadian Bank of Commerce, Declares War Being Fought to Preserve Freedom, not Bureaucracy

S. M. Wedd, General Manager, Emphasizes Bank's Wide-spread Service to Public

**At the Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held in the Head Office of the Bank in the City of Toronto, December 14th, Mr. S. H. Logan, President, and Mr. S. M. Wedd, General Manager, presented the Annual Statement of the Bank's operations in the past year, together with a review of Business Conditions. Mr. Logan's address to the meeting follows:**

After four years of war we are told that we have approached the beginning of the end and that we can be justifiably optimistic as to the outcome of this, the greatest and costliest war in all history.

Marshaled in support of the united war effort has been the full power of the physical resources of the Allied Nations. Although at times seeming slow to move, its impetus has increased until there is now poised and ready to strike against Germany and Japan and their remaining satellites a weight of overpowering armament about three times greater than can be commanded by the Axis—a weight which is increasing day by day against an opposing output which decreases rather than rises.

## ALLIES' WAR PRODUCTION

The British Commonwealth of Nations has been and is producing nearly one-quarter of all the supplies and armament of the United Nations, exceeding the combined output of Germany, Austria and occupied Czechoslovakia. Of this great total the United Kingdom produces three-quarters, and of that share three-quarters is being sent abroad.

Now the great production of the United States rolls on—war expenditures of \$90,000,000,000 this year—a half of this in fighting material—guns, munitions, planes, tanks, motor vehicles, ships, etc.—enough to equip 10,000,000 men in their own services and furnish Lend-Lease supplies to Allied forces and civilians of \$9,000,000,000 annually.

In Canada production of armament has not been as large this year as was at first projected. There have been excess accumulations of certain supplies, scarcity of materials, time spent on re-engineering resulting from simplified specifications and cost-saving devices, and in some areas labour shortages and unfortunate labour disturbances. Yet the national effort as a whole this year was on a vastly greater scale than in 1942, expenditures of the Dominion of Canada for war purposes increasing by 40 per cent. to \$3,947,000,000.

## ENTERPRISE MENACED

Such has Canada done as a nation at war. Despite these accomplishments, both of labour and the men by whose own initiative and under whose guidance have been built great enterprises and who have given the benefit of their years of personal experience, there is being fostered in some quarters an agitation against free enterprise, whether it be individual or corporate. These reflections are aimed to cast doubt, suspicion and prejudice against any business—first against the large corporations calling them monopolistic but aimed also at any individual enterprise. Apparently distrusting all motives and capabilities but their own, those behind the movement advocate a new system under which all production, labour and distribution would be directed by them alone.

## DANGERS TO ALL CLASSES

Any such programme demands thoughtful examination by every citizen, for however well-intentioned these proposals for bureaucratic control may be, they have elements of danger for all classes: farmers and other producers, manufacturers, tradesmen, professional people and wage-earners. The inevitable end of such a system is a form of

dictatorship and domination of the national economy, with capital, production and labour committed to whatever ventures, whether economic or political, a few leaders may decide.

Apart altogether from shareholders in corporations, our system of individual enterprise actually is made up of over 1,250,000 proprietors of business in Canada. These proprietors are the owners of farms, factories, mills, workshops, retail stores and other small business establishments. The interests of this vast number of citizens engaged in enterprise on their own account, as well as others, would be greatly endangered by permanent economic control, and they should not be misguided by the argument that complete socialism is feasible merely by control of key industries. Socialism cannot stop short of absolute control of every individual business unit, small and large.

## BANKING

The most ardent supporters of government regimentation extend their arguments to nationalization of banking. So far, they do not claim that the Canadian banking system is inadequate or inefficient.

It seems that there persists among advocates of nationalized banking the idea that the chartered banks monopolize credit in some measure for the so-called "big interests." Moreover, it is implied that the banks control, partly or wholly, the "big interests," or that the "big interests" control them, erroneous assumptions since no bank, so far as we know, has any large stock holdings in any trading corporation, nor has any "big interest" any important holding in bank stocks. The greater part of the business of our ten chartered banks, which are highly competitive, is directly with the general public through over 3,000 branches manned by staffs trained to render impartial community service, principally on their individual responsibility. In this Bank, for example, branch managers deal directly with fully nine-tenths of the borrowing transactions through their own offices, making thousands of loans each year to all classes of the public, manufacturers, traders, farmers, wage-earners and others.

Nationalization of the Canadian banking system would be monopolistic banking in the true sense of the word, for then all the banking business of the people of Canada would be under political control and each individual's account be subject to scrutiny by a representative of socialistic authority. Surely the millions of people who constitute the banking public—the four million depositors and the hundreds of thousands of borrowers—would not wish to submit to such results of nationalization.

## ENTERPRISE THE BEST ROAD

The people of Canada have the choice of two roads. One is paved with promises that a socialistic government—no matter how the result is to be obtained—can guarantee security and an abundant life for all from some imaginary source of wealth and well-being. Always this road has ended in economic disaster.

The other road is our present system of free enterprise. We do not say that it has been altogether smooth, and that no mistakes have been made by those who have followed it, but we do say definitely that it led to Canada's great progress.

We also say with strong confidence that this thoroughfare of enterprise is the only one that can lead to business expansion, full employment and better economic and social opportunities for all. It is the road that will be travelled by a free and happy people.

## POST-WAR CONDITIONS

Much of Canada's prosperity comes from the export of her primary producers—the grain growers of the West, the livestock raisers, the miners of metals, the lumbermen, the fishermen and fruit growers—and after the war

many more of our manufacturers. To carry on our foreign trade after the war we must be prepared to meet the needs of world consumers in a highly competitive market, consumers who will make their own choice of goods and who will pay only the price that they can afford. Make no mistake, Canada does not set the export price; that is determined by what the world is willing to pay for what we have to sell, and we must also buy from countries abroad if our export trade is to be maintained.

When peace comes—and we cannot tell what form it will take, whether it will be an armistice with a period of gradual readjustment or whether it will be an abrupt ending which will demand of all of us speedy readjustment to peacetime needs—there is one thing of which we are sure, and that is that we must be prepared to make this period one of the minimum uncertainty. Returning members of the Armed Forces must be absorbed into the routine of commercial life with well-planned efficiency. We may reasonably expect, after the first uncertainties, demands for civilian goods which will bring about a high degree of employment and generally active business. Some of those now trained solely for war work will have to be retrained for peacetime operations, and to accomplish this smoothly there will be required a fine degree of co-operation between labour and management to ensure that both employers and employees will receive their due measure of return for the services which they render.

## PERSONAL INITIATIVE NECESSARY FOR PROGRESS

We must remember that Canada's magnificent effort in this war has been due in large measure to the support and initiative of her million odd business enterprises. If political action is allowed to destroy or weaken that initiative, advancement of this country will greatly be retarded, and its natural virility tend to become decadent.

A grave warning from no less a person than the British Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, against bureaucracy was issued in these words, which we quote:

"We must beware of trying to build a society in which nobody counts for anything except the politician or official, a society where enterprise gains no reward and thrift no privileges. I say 'try to build' because of all the races in the world our people would be the last to consent to be governed by a bureaucracy. Freedom is their life-blood . . . We must expect taxation after the war to be heavier than it was before the war, but we do not intend to shape our plans or levy taxation in a way which by removing personal incentive would destroy initiative and enterprise."

There are still great opportunities in this country—as great as ever in the past—for people with initiative, ability and a progressive spirit. They must be free to go forward as the result of their own individuality and enterprise and feel that this war was fought to preserve that freedom and not to develop and build up a bureaucracy.

## GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS

The Financial Statement now presented shows the aggregate assets of the Bank at \$1,003,183,000, the highest in our history and representing an increase of \$116,522,000 over the corresponding figure of the previous fiscal year. Cash reserves are \$165,559,000 and total quick assets at \$714,660,000 are equivalent to 75.10 per cent. of the Bank's total liabilities to the public.

Our total deposits now stand at \$913,879,000, an increase of \$121,319,000 over last year. This increase is made up principally of \$65,648,000 in demand deposits and \$50,611,000 in deposits bearing interest, the latter notwithstanding the very substantial investments which have been made by our customers in Victory Loan bonds.

It may be interesting at this time to analyze in a general way the make-up of the figures which have just been presented. In the first place we have 1,132,973 deposit accounts, of which 97 per cent. are accounts of individuals. In view of this large number of accounts entrusted to the Bank which we operate solely on the direction of the respective depositors according to their needs, it is necessary for us to maintain large cash reserves, the first line of which is the Bank's holdings of notes of the Bank of Canada and the large balance which it carries at all times on deposit with that institution. Following this first line there is the large investment in the short and medium term securities of the Dominion of Canada. After this background of liquidity there are the Bank's loans to individuals and industry.

The Canadian banks are, of course at all times anxious to develop their loaning business and in this way assist in the financing of the needs of agriculture, business and enterprise generally. In the past twelve months this Bank has made 201,697 individual loans to its customers and it might be mentioned here that of these over 60 per cent. were for amounts of \$200 or less.

An examination of the figures which I have just outlined shows that while the assets of the Bank are large in the aggregate they mainly counterbalance the liabilities to a great number of individual depositors.

## FINE STAFF RECORD

The integral and vitalizing factor in the production of our Balance Sheet is, of course, the staff of the Bank. In the past year the banking system, in addition to its already enlarged day-to-day responsibilities due to war activities, has taken on among other government services "coupon banking" for the Ration Board.

In the past year 323 additional members of the staff have joined the services bringing the total up to 1,618. Of these 45 have given their lives for their country and we shall miss them deeply. I am sure you will join with me in extending to their relatives our sympathy.

With respect to our young men and women now in the services, we would like to add that it is our hope that they will soon be back in civil life and to say that our foremost thought is to see that employment is immediately available for them in the Bank.

## BUSINESS CONDITIONS

The past year has set a new high record in industrial activity in Canada in response to the greatest requirements for war materials ever known.

On the other hand, the primary industries, agriculture, forestry, mining and fishing, all showed lower production records than in 1942.

General crop out-turns were nearly one-third below those of last year. Apart from the farm labour shortage acute in some of the largest production areas was the most unfavourable planting and growing weather in many years in Central and Eastern Canada.

As we all know, the shift from a peace to a war economy involves many complicated problems, but the readjustment from a war to a peace basis, which we have to face, presents even greater difficulties. This is because in the first place the shift to war production is a shift from production to meet varied and uncertain requirements of thousands of individual consumers to production to meet a concentrated demand for munitions of war and, in the second place because under the impulse of patriotic emotion people accept more readily the sacrifices and inconveniences involved. However, the smooth readjustment to peace conditions is hardly less important than the converse and it can be achieved if we all work together with the same determined purpose that has characterized our outstanding national contribution to the successful prosecution of the War.

# FIVE Marches The Country Guide Part

1943-1944

THE last week of 1943 was a week of gloom for Schicklgruber. It was the culmination of a calamitous year for him. That year saw defeat in Africa, Sicily, Sardinia, Corsica and the lower end of Italy. It witnessed the destruction of Mussolini, his chief partner in crime. It saw the definite curbing of his submersible destroyers that prowled the Atlantic. It revealed that the German armies had lost the power to stage another summer offensive. It saw the reconquest of vast areas of Russia by its own people. During 1943, a score of his greatest cities, including his capital, were skeletonized. His Oriental partner in creating world chaos was definitely halted in his career of conquest and turned back. Perhaps greatest of all he saw the blasting of his hopes to sow discord among his great adversaries.

During that last week, he learned that the Scharnhorst had been sunk in Arctic waters and that three of his destroyers had been sent to the bottom of the Bay of Biscay. His troops were driven out of Ortona, chiefly by Canadians. His eastern armies were in full retreat, with his great counter offensive on the Kiev front defeated and crushed. That last week was a fitting climax of a year of disasters. And the last day climaxed the last week, for on that day the Russian forces swept past and enveloped Zhitomir, where his only counter offensive since July started in November.

And it was portentous of 1944, the year to come. Two formidable foes, under unified command, with unquestioned supremacy on the sea and in the air, stand poised to strike across the channel. Before many weeks the German desolators will have full scale war on two fronts. The Allied Nations are buoyed by an invincible spirit to win and with no shadow of doubt of the final outcome, while on his own home front his people know that they are doomed to overwhelming disaster and defeat. In the high councils of his enemies there is unity and concord; in his own there is disunity and distrust. He knows, and his captains know, that their doom is sealed and that before the year is out he and they will be brought to destruction, or if not, to the crumbling brink of it.

We live in times of mighty and terrible events. In the war-crammed history of the human race, this year, 1944, may stand out as the great epochal year of all time.

## The Grand Assault

EISENHOWER will command the onslaught across the channel. The reason is that the Americans will have, according to a statement made by Field Marshal Smuts, about 70 per cent of the soldiers engaged in the action. Major George Fielding Eliot, well known military commentator, estimates these

forces at between 60 and 100 divisions, say 80 divisions including attacking forces and reserves. Placing the men available in all arms of the services and in all theatres at 10 per cent of the population, he works out this interesting calculation: "The total population of the United Kingdom is 48 million and of Canada (the only dominion whose forces are engaged in Europe in large number) about 12 million. This will suggest a total available fighting force of six million; of these, over two million are in the airforce and about one million in the navy and merchant marine. We may allow 1,500,000 for the army forces serving in the Mediterranean, the Middle East, India and other overseas areas. About 600,000 more are tied up in anti-aircraft and coast defenses in the British Isles. This leaves 900,000 subject to a still further deduction of 20 per cent for army administration overhead, sick in hospital, instructional cadres, etc. Thus the number of British troops available for field service in the British Isles does not seem likely to exceed 720,000."

This would mean about 24 divisions, with the United States supplying the other 56, which accords closely with the figure used by Field Marshal Smuts. This is considerably more than the total overseas forces of the United States in the last World War.

In his speech, after returning from the Teheran conference, President Roosevelt stated that the United States now has 3,800,000 service men overseas and that by July the figure will reach 5,000,000. And this is not the end. A year from now the number may reach twice the present figure if they are needed.

## United We Stand

THE Big Four have met, but not all at once. China is not at war with Germany and Russia is not at war with Japan. And so they met in two conferences; Stalin was not in Egypt and Chiang Kai-Shek was not in Teheran. Russia does not want a second front in the East and nobody on this side of the conflict would expect her to do anything to rile the Japanese. She is doing her share between the Black Sea and the Baltic and then some.

The Big Four represent 1,261,785,000 people against Axis populations of 195,226,000, but that includes the hundreds of millions of India and China. More significant is the comparison of their armies. The Big Four muster 26,900,000 men against the Axis 13,000,000. They have twice as many ships in the five major categories; Britain and the United States are putting 12,500 new planes into the air every month against the Axis 3,200 and

Russia is building a lot of planes too. Schicklgruber's strategy on the political front was to weaken this gigantic aggregation of force by driving wedges between his foes. There were slots in which to insert the thin edge of wedges. There was the all-important question of the second front. The Russians naturally just couldn't understand why they should have to stand the full brunt of German force with the war in its fourth year and there were people in Britain who couldn't understand it either. There was the existence of the Comintern, devoted to world revolution, but dissolved last spring. There was the question of Russian territorial expansion after the war. The American ambassador to Moscow accused the Russian government of not keeping the Russian people informed of the extent of lend-lease aid, with the result that within a week it was given. And there was the question of more aid to China in her heroic stand as she holds the Japs.

All these matters were discussed in three conferences, one at the foreign minister level at Moscow and the other two in Egypt and Teheran, between the supreme leaders. Relations between the four great powers are vastly improved as a result of these conferences. Now they know what each other plans to do. A second front was agreed on, dates were named, the high command of the Allies has been completely reshuffled in preparation for the grand assault across the channel. Apparently a satisfactory understanding was reached regarding Poland and the Baltic countries. The edges of Schicklgruber's wedges were pinched off. Far from being split asunder, the United Nations were never as united as they are now. Schicklgruber's strategy on the political front has gone haywire, just as his strategy on the military front has done.

## Lost Face

JAPAN stuck her face into China's rice bowl—and lost many men and much face. From around Hankow, which is up the Yangtze Kiang River from Shanghai, the Nips struck south-east into the rich rice growing plains of central China. Their immediate object was to destroy the rice crop and starve a few million Chinese. The ultimate objective was Chungking, Chiang Kai-Shek's capital. But Chiang Kai-Shek is back in Chungking, after a confab with Churchill and Roosevelt in the shadow of the pyramids which were young when his country was already old, and the Japs are back around Hankow.

As is always the case, the Chinese with only light arms and not good ones at that, gave ground; then at Changteh they dug in and brought the invaders to a standstill, for which they were praised by Chiang Kai-Shek. They held their ground while units infiltrated the Japanese rear. In this half guerrilla warfare, many Japanese throats were slit. American and Chinese bombers lent effective aid. The rice is still in the bowl and perhaps some Japanese commanders have committed hari-kari.

But Chiang Kai-Shek has his troubles. The Chinese peasants prefer a quiet front. If he were to stage an offensive there is threat of trouble in his rear. In the North, the communistic element is in charge. They hate the Japs, but that doesn't mean that they like the Generalissimo. However, he is holding the line with supreme tenacity and superb generalship until the Allies arrive with men and materials. There will be great doings in China after Schicklgruber's hide has been nailed to the door of his Berchtesgaden retreat.

## Wolf Packs of the Atlantic

THE boys have a saying that when they sink a sub they have to bring back the skipper's pants to prove it. But at that the figures are impressive. In the six months ending with November, 150 of them were sent to the scrap heap on the bottom of the Atlantic. Fewer merchant ships were lost in November than in any month since May, 1940. First the subs were sinking ships faster than they could be built. Then the launchings were matched by sinkings. Now as many subs are sunk as merchantmen.

They are something more than submarines or U-boats. They are submersible destroyers, able, Hitler thought, and destined he thought, to knock out everything afloat. They can make 15 or 17 knots on the surface. They carry a wallop in fire power that can almost match a good light destroyer. They have torpedoes that are steered toward their prey by the sound of its propellers. They have anti-aircraft batteries that can send up a formidable barrage. They are tough. But the sailors and airmen, mostly Canadian sailors and airmen, are winning the battles on the dreary wastes of the Atlantic.

The sea lanes are now comparatively safe as hundreds of thousands of American soldiers and millions of tons of equipment and supplies pour across the Atlantic for the Grand Assault across the channel.



# WHAT'S AHEAD FOR 1944?

**... and what to do about it**

THE SITUATION FOR 1944...The war is being won, but the end is not yet in sight. In 1944 the wartime pace of food production in Canada must be maintained... for, with the invasion of Europe, food must be supplied to the starved millions who will be freed from the German yoke, as well as to our fighting men, our Allies and those at home. This is a great responsibility. It can be discharged only if every piece of useable farm equipment is put into top-notch working condition for the coming season.

**WHAT ABOUT NEW EQUIPMENT? . . .**  
There will be an increased supply of new farm equipment in 1944, but the supply will not meet the demand. Already we have requests for the major part of our production for this year, in spite of stepped-up quotas.

If you are looking for new equipment, remember that Government rationing is still in effect. You will have to show proof of need before a replacement permit will be issued.

**WHAT COCKSHUTT WILL DO . . .**  
Here at Cockshutt's we have a double responsibility. We are still heavily engaged in essential war work. Like you, we have had a labor shortage, but we will continue to produce farm equipment and repair parts to the limit of our allotment of raw materials.

Our loyal family of Cockshutt employees is behind us one hundred percent in our determination to see that the farmer is supplied with essential needs.

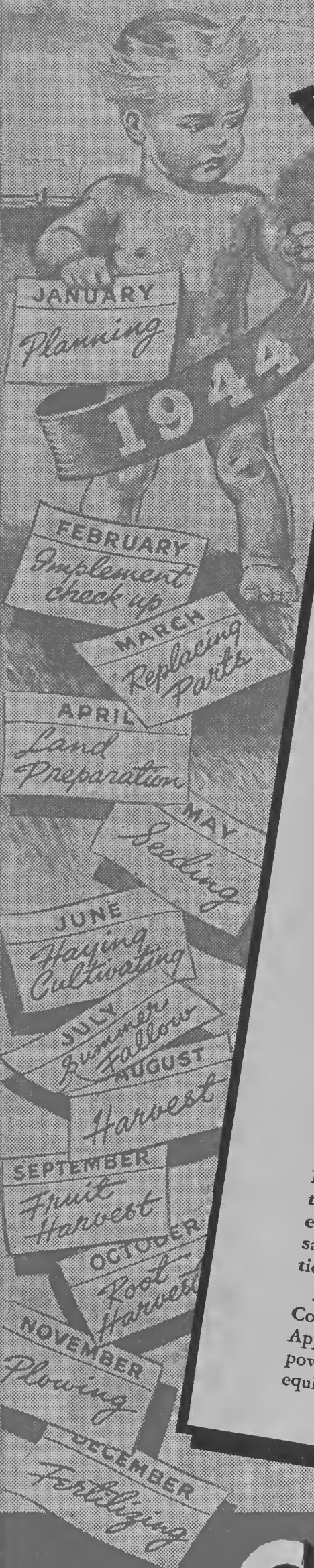
**WHAT COCKSHUTT DEALERS WILL DO . . .** During 1944 our dealers are pledged to help you, in every way possible, to get the equipment and repair parts which are necessary for your vital part in Canada's contribution to Victory.

If you must have a new implement, your Cockshutt dealer can help you make out your Application and will do everything in his power to assist you to get prompt delivery of equipment when your permit has been granted.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO . . .** Plan to use as much of your present equipment as possible. While, at first, you may think you cannot get along without a new implement, ask yourself . . . is it absolutely necessary? If your present machine can be repaired, make it do . . . above all, don't sell your present equipment on the chance that you may get a replacement. If you do you may find yourself without a machine at all.

**THIS IS OUR ADVICE . . .** Plan ahead! If you need repair parts . . . if you need new equipment of any kind . . . the time to get your order into your dealer's hands is right now! Remember . . . he is short of help just as you are. If you give him time he can work wonders for you.

**WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE?** Our own people . . . our armed forces and those of us at home who are backing them up . . . must have vast quantities of food as well as the starved and oppressed millions of Europe, and, as these unfortunate people are set free, we must be prepared to keep them fed until they become self-sustaining. That is the challenge of the future. **CANADIAN FARMERS WILL MEASURE UP TO THE TASK. NOW IS THE TIME TO FACE IT . . . AND PLAN FOR IT!**



# COCKSHUTT

PLOW COMPANY LIMITED  
BRANTFORD

SMITHS FALLS • MONTREAL  
TRURO

WINNIPEG • REGINA • CALGARY  
SASKATOON • EDMONTON

# Inferno

by

WESTMORELAND GRAY

ILLUSTRATED BY JOHN STABLES

**W**HEN the long train ground and jolted to a stop, Joe Ranier drew a deep and quivering sigh of relief. For the hundred miles while he clung to the ladder of the swaying boxcar, with the empty oil tankers rattling and reeling ahead of him in the dark spring night, his mind had been filled with the horror of what those grinding wheels could do to him if he should slip. He had ridden many times like this in the last six years. But he was always afraid.

He peered furtively out. The swinging arc of a lantern marked a brakeman walking back along the line of cars from the engine. But, closer, the burly, hulking figure of a yard bull was a greater menace. Joe knew they wanted no more bums in Dunway, and he could see the bull's short, blunt billy. Those things crashing down on your head sent pains shooting through your whole body. He drew hastily back, crouching hidden on the apron of the tanker.

"Got any 'bos ridin' with you? the bull shouted.

"Ain't sure," the brakeman answered. "Seen one get on at Pettus. Maybe he sloped at one of the stops. Maybe not."

"I better not catch him tryin' to get off here," the bull growled. "This burg is overrun with panhandlers and hotshots. Too many for even a boom oil town."

Joe thought, shrinking against the steel belly of the tanker, "I shouldn't have come. I can't get off. I'll be caught and beaten and jugged."

But he'd had to come. He could no longer live at Pettus, working as a flunky in a beer joint. Men there had found out who he was. It had been like that before Pettus—at every oil town where he had tried to work in the last six years.

He didn't expect to stay here. The Kid would see him, and he wanted never to humiliate the Kid again. The Kid was on his own, doing okey in this field—derrick man on a crack drilling crew. Joe felt pride swelling within him. Perhaps by now the Kid was forgetting. Forgetting what his father was, but remembering a little, Joe hoped, of what he had been.

No, he would move on, and quickly. But he'd had to come by Dunway—to get a glimpse of the Kid. Just wanted to see him move and talk once more, and grin the way he used to with one corner of his mouth quirking up—and then Joe would go on. Why, the Kid was only sixteen and still in high school last time Joe had seen him; and now he was a man—twenty-one and a husky six-footer, Joe had heard. Five years. Joe winced, remembering the night the Kid had told him he couldn't stand things any longer.

Cautiously Joe looked out on the opposite side of the train. This was the busy half of the yards. Four spur tracks spanned between Joe and the lighted loading wharves fronting the row of sheet-iron warehouses. Even at this time of night big trucks were backed up, and men worked hard and swore lustily loading on heavy drilling machinery. One four-tonner rumbled off into the night with a pyramid of drill pipe. Dunway was on a boom, as much of a boom as an oil town could have in these days of proration and tight money.

**J**OE saw no yards bulls or trainmen to threaten him on this side; he climbed down and scuttled precipitately as a frightened rabbit along the shielding boxcars. Sharp rocks of the track ballast cut his feet through thin-worn soles. But no shout went up, and he sprinted across the spur tracks for the shadow of a ramshackle pine warehouse which showed no light or activity.

In the deep darkness Joe halted, gasping loudly for breath, his heart hammering against his ribs. He was like a man with a bum pump, he told himself, his heart ready to burst after a little exertion. But it wasn't his heart that ailed him. It was fear, jittery fear, and he hated himself for it. Always hiding. Running from little things in which other men saw no danger. Starting at the least sudden noise. Never daring to look into men's faces, thinking he saw contempt there.

Sometimes, when it did not hurt too much, he would indulge in memories of the man he used to be.

The story of a man who was known as the ace fire-killer of the oil fields--- until he made his ghastly mistake

new oil field assailed him, for the very town itself was surrounded and hugged by the many familiar derricks and wells.

Before him, straight eastward, lighted by strings of sparse electric lights and runners of brighter ones that outlined the myriad steel derricks, was a tangle of pipe lines and water lines, of slush pits and boilers and stacks of drill steam. Trucks and cars crawled along obscure roads and lanes. The smell of fresh petroleum, of burning crude oil, the hiss of steam, the exhausts of Diesels, the rattle of swivels and hoisting blocks, the harsh clank of pipe tongs and wrench and hammer, the deep undertone of continual rumble, and the far-carrying voices of men in the night—all this dug deep into Joe's senses, and did things to him. For thirteen years he had been a part of oil-field life. Then for six years he hadn't been able to tear himself away from it, though it was torture to be surrounded by it.

FROM Ranger, with the craziest and wildest boom of them all, that first year after he came back from the war, to Mexia, where three miles of New Town and "Juarez" shacks sprang up almost overnight; to roaring Richland; to Kilgore and Gladewater and Long-

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"Say, you're Joe Ranier, ain't you? I saw you put out that heller they had at Hog Creek."



*Above: Hon. J. G. Gardiner summarizes the Ottawa Conference findings. On his right, Dr. G. S. H. Barton, Deputy Minister, and on his left, Chairman A. M. Shaw and R. S. Hamer, Chief of Production Service, think about the big job ahead of Canadian farmers in 1944. Right: L. W. Pearsall (extreme left) is seen next to the Saskatchewan delegation, C. E. Beveridge, Livestock Commissioner (left), Hon. J. G. Taggart, Minister of Agriculture (centre), and Dr. F. H. Auld, Deputy Minister (right).*

**H**OW much can Canadian Agriculture produce in 1944? This was the question before the Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Production Conference held in Ottawa early in December. The answer was by no means easy, because in addition to wartime needs for many farm products, especially meats, dairy products, poultry, and oil bearing crops, other factors such as labor, moisture supply, and the availability of farm supplies generally, are involved.

The need for food has, heretofore, come largely from embattled Britain, more or less isolated from her normal, peace-time sources of supply. Now, with the definite prospect of ultimate victory, and the dawn of liberation appearing for the occupied countries and enslaved peoples of Europe, as well as for the scores of millions dominated by the Japanese in the Pacific area, more food than ever will be one of the grim necessities of peace. It is estimated that 23 million tons of food will be needed by destitute peoples; and by far the greatest part of this will require to be imported from lands that have not been overrun by the Nazis.

Reserves of foodstuffs are now being built up in readiness for the day of liberation, but further reserves must be made available on the farms of Canada, United States, Australia, New Zealand, and other free countries. How, and to what extent can Canada contribute to this need in 1944? Already, notwithstanding the drain of 400,000 men, and probably 100,000 women from Canadian farms since 1939, our total agricultural production has increased by 40 per cent; and by the more effective use of available machinery, the return to active labor of older men and women who had already earned honorable retirement, as well as by the help of boys and girls, the output per man on Canadian farms has risen to nearly 70 per cent above the 1938-39 level. How long can this pace be kept up? It was no wonder that here and there throughout the Conference some provincial minister of agriculture or provincial official shook his head doubtfully when a further increase of this or that crop, or type of livestock was suggested.

And yet, the need, though not as urgent as when Britain was fighting alone on her little island, is actually greater than ever. And, one after the other, the ministers of agriculture, from British Columbia to Prince Edward Island, pledged their people to continue as they have done for four years, to do the best they could. They remembered the statement made recently by the Rt. Hon. Malcolm MacDonald, High Commissioner in Canada for the United Kingdom, that: "Without the help of Canadian farmers, the war would have been lost two years ago."

THEY also heard during the conference, Col. the Hon. John I. Llewellyn, the new Minister of Food for Britain, and his secretary, Mr. J. P. R. Maud, make earnest appeals for food production and particularly for the maintenance of Canada's great effort in supplying bacon for Britain. The Minister of Food



*Col. The Hon. T. L. Kennedy, Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, ponders Ontario's short feed situation, while on his right, C. E. Lackner, Dairy Commissioner, wonders about butter and cheese production, and L. E. O'Neill undoubtedly has thoughts about hogs that he would prefer to keep to himself.*

assured the conference not only that he did not believe our market would slip away from us after the

war, but that unless we can, in 1944, come within striking distance of our 1943 export of bacon and pork products, it would be necessary by the middle of this year, to reduce the British bacon ration by 25 per cent.

All of these factors, therefore, were involved in the final statement of the Hon. James G. Gardiner, at the close of the Conference. From this statement we have taken the following pertinent excerpts:

"Our experience of the past two years has indicated that with normal climatic conditions, and established, available, cultivated acreage, and set labor and equipment supplies, the over-all production can not be greatly, if at all, increased. Weather conditions, to which we of necessity must submit, warn against being over-optimistic. The Conference, does not, therefore, feel justified in asking farmers to demand any greater production in 1944 than was asked for in 1943. . . . We believe our general appeal for production equal to 1943 will be attempted and that normal conditions prevailing will be met.

# ONCE MORE UNTO THE BREACH

**The Dominion-Provincial Agriculture Conference defines the Canadian farmers' 1944 war effort**

by

**H. S. FRY**

"... It is urged that feed crops be maintained at the highest possible level during 1944 . . . this year has given a warning that when our farms are carrying abnormally high livestock populations, the greatest catastrophe to agriculture could result from low feed supplies. . . . It has been considered wise to emphasize the importance of trying to maintain the highest possible production of meats.

"... It was thought wise to impress upon western farmers the importance of maintaining their present acreage of summerfallow, rather than an increased acreage of grain at the expense of summerfallow . . . (because) we are assured of supplies (of wheat) to meet the highest possible demands of the next two years.

"... The greatest amount of concern has been about hogs . . . Our considered opinion is that Canadian farmers should this year endeavor to maintain the 600 million pound level of 1942 in deliveries to Britain."

During this period of

*Below: Left, Arthur Macnamara, Director, National Service, and centre, Hon. K. C. MacDonald, Minister of Agriculture for British Columbia, talk with Hon. D. L. Campbell, Minister of Agriculture for Manitoba, during the Conference.*



great need in other countries, Canadians have been well fed. We have increased our consumption of milk and milk products by 18 per cent, as compared with the 1935-39 period; of meats, 12 per cent; of eggs, 24 per cent; of grain products, 4 per cent; of oils and fats, 6 per cent; of poultry, 2 per cent; and of potatoes, 7 per cent. Those items of which we have eaten less have not represented any material hardship. The most serious is sugar, where we have decreased consumption by 18 per cent; peas, beans and nuts, 7 per cent; fruits and fruit products (excluding tomatoes and citrus fruit), 9 per cent; vegetables, 2-4 per cent; tea, coffee and cocoa, 3 per cent. We are very well fed indeed. We have eaten 29 per cent more beef, and 1 per cent more pork. We have just as much cheese as before the war, and only 4 per cent less butter. It is hard, therefore, to justify the increased pork made available to the domestic market; and it is so much, at least, to the credit of those who decreed this

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# RE-STARTING EUROPEAN AGRICULTURE

**W**HEN the order to cease fire ends the greatest war in history; when the peace bells ring out and victors go on a jamboree of rejoicing; the world will face the greatest task of relief and rehabilitation of all time. Five hundred million people lie under the heel of the arch-fiends who precipitated this inhuman conflict upon mankind. Their home countries have been swept with the besom of destruction. For them, hunger, disease and stark destitution will still reign. The task of succoring them will be our greatest task—quite as great as conducting the war itself.

The relief and rehabilitation of Europe and China falls into three phases: First the sufferers must be fed, clothed and doctored; next they must be returned to their home countries; lastly they must be rehabilitated in their own communities.

The present condition of Europe was well portrayed by Sir John Russell, who heads the agricultural section of the Inter-Allied Committee on Postwar Requirements. He said: "Never before in the whole history of mankind have the people of Europe had to endure such appalling sufferings as have befallen the occupied countries. Even the official rations are inadequate, often supplying only about half to two thirds our standard requirements of calories, and in the case of Jews even less. . . . Refugees bring accounts of widespread and growing malnutrition and deficiency diseases, children crippled by lack of essential foods, adults suffering from acute forms of tuberculosis, widespread malaria, typhus and other diseases; almost worse still, the population crushed and made listless by hunger, and rapidly sinking to a condition when they can no longer take much part in rebuilding their shattered lives."

"Along with this increasing inability to recover, there has been an appalling destruction of the material means of recovery. The Germans have taken whatever they wanted, and as they are driven out of the different countries they will almost certainly destroy everything possible. Agriculture is largely thrown out of gear: the system of farming and the rotations are upset. Transport, the twin sister of agriculture, is being utterly disorganized: ships, barges, railway engines, trucks and lorries are being destroyed as quickly as they can be found."

To meet this situation, first aid will be necessary. It will be gradual at first. Aid has been given in North Africa, in Sicily and in southern Italy. It will be continued as rapidly as territory is liberated. But with the final collapse of Nazidom, scores of millions will be suddenly thrown on our mercy.

It will cost money. The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration met recently at Atlantic City. Forty-four nations were represented. Estimates of costs were presented. The total cost is estimated at two billion five hundred million dollars of which the United States' share will be one-half. The British Commonwealth will supply 500 million dollars, of which Canada's share will be 90 million. Of the total, four hundred million will go to China. South American countries will assist, even Argentina, fascist though she is, has promised to supply wheat from her surplus.

**W**HILE first aid is being given, restoration must proceed. Besides the literally tens of millions in the armed forces who have been severed from their means of peacetime livelihood, seventy million people have been uprooted and displaced. Of these, forty million are in China and thirty million in Europe. The U.N.R.R.A. estimates that there are 5,750,000 slave workers in German factories alone, in addition to nearly 2,250,000 prisoners of war held in that country. In Poland alone 8,616,000 people have been driven from their homes, or one-quarter of the entire population. Nearly 2,500,000 of them have been sent to Germany. All this in addition to the millions who have been massacred.

When these uprooted and displaced millions have been brought back to their home communities, there still remains the great minorities problem. At the peace table it may be decided to redistribute the racial minority groups which dot the Balkans and return them to their parent countries. But still further difficulties show their heads above the horizon. Ex-

President Hoover of the United States, who had charge of postwar relief after the last holocaust, has put on record the difficulties he met. Revolutions and counter revolutions were the order of the day. While he was endeavoring to save lives, factions in some parts of Europe were chiefly bent on killing each other. What we may expect is stated by Sir John when he said:

"A new factor has come into play with which it is by no means easy to deal. During the war, the art of propaganda has been developed to a remarkable degree, and we may be sure that after the war the Germans will make every effort to stir up trouble wherever there are difficulties of recovery. Even after the war of 1914-18, when the methods were crude and undeveloped, trouble was created in eastern Europe; this time the danger will be greater. We must face the fact that the postwar problems will be at least as difficult as those of the war itself."

**H**ERE we are chiefly interested in the agricultural aspects. Having given first aid and having got the patient back home, there will follow a long period of convalescence. Somewhere between eleven and twelve million people, equal to the entire population of Canada, will have to be resettled on their land. As Sir John states further: "Steps will be taken to insure supplies of food, but they could not possibly continue indefinitely and it will be imperative to restart the agriculture of Europe at the earliest possible moment in order first to augment, and later replace, the efforts of the relief organizations. . . . From what is known of the food conditions in occupied countries it seems certain that the most serious shortage is in calories. Until these are available, there is no point in supplying more vitamins. Indeed we are told that without calories, vitamins might do more harm than good."

"Immediately possession of the land is obtained it will be necessary, therefore, to sow crops capable of yielding high calorie returns per acre. The easiest and quickest to grow are cereals and potatoes. Pulses (leguminous crops like beans and peas) will be almost equally necessary to make up deficiencies of protein, for meat is likely to be scarce."

He then goes on to explain that seed will be necessary. Should the war cease after a harvest has been used or confiscated by the Germans an acute seed situation might arise. One difficulty is that seed from other parts of the world might not be suitable to the climate and soil conditions of the desolated countries. A list of minimum seed requirements has been drawn up, based on the assumption that requisitioning can supply 90 per cent of the seed grain. It includes half a million tons of grain seed, mostly wheat and rye, and 425 thousand tons of potato seed. The grand total amounts to more than a million tons. Eastern Canada could supply fall wheat seed to Poland, oats to Czechoslovakia, peas to Norway and peas and beans to Greece. Argentine wheat might be suitable for Greece. Furnishing seed alone will be a stupendous problem.

Then comes up the question of rehabilitating the livestock population. It was estimated by the middle of 1942 that the loss of cattle alone was probably not less than 11 million head. And the situation has deteriorated a great deal since then. Many of the survivors are immature and have less production value. They are not as well fed as in peace time and the yield of milk and meat has fallen more than is indicated by the fall in numbers. Loss of sheep is put at not less than 9 million head and the loss of pigs is even greater, fully half the pig population. The poultry population is down to less than one-quarter. The restoration of the animal population will be slow and laborious and cannot be attempted until feed supplies are in sight. One of the mistakes made after the last war was to send in animals before feed was ready for them and so they simply had to be slaughtered.

After the feed for the animals is assured, milk cows must be among the first to be increased so as to start making up for the great shortage of milk. Something can be done by supplying more and better food for the surviving animals because the output of milk increases up to a point with the increase in feed

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## PART III.

ROM the window of her bedroom Willa saw her father and Jim coming down the road. She flew out to meet them.

When she tried to speak her throat choked up with emotion. "Oh, Dad, I was frightened. Big Ben . . ."

Cliff flung a surprised question at her. "What about Big Ben?"

"I found him . . . on the road . . . and I thought . . . I was afraid something had happened to you."

"Found him where?"

"On the road, before it dips to come into the park. And Dad, that Wes Stewart was lying in the brush. He'd fallen off."

Jim cut in. "Like I thought. One of 'em hit him."

"Was he dead?" asked Cliff.

"No. I got him on Big Ben. I don't know how; he was so weak. And I rode behind him an' brought him here."

"Here?" Wylie was startled. This complication was one he had not expected.

"Why, yes." Willa looked at him, pushed by his tone to self-defense. "Where else could I take him?"

"I'm not blamin' you, girl. You did right. That ain't the point. But I'll say I wish he was anywhere but here. Not two hours ago he killed Dug Howard an' wounded Denver Pete bad."

Willa took this startling news with a gasp. Her big eyes demanded the particulars.

"It was at Park's Place," her father went on. "Stewart was in there when Fallon and three of his friends came in. They were on the prod soon as they found out who he was. Denver Pete started the shooting, far as I can make out. Anyhow Stewart lit out on Big Ben. Is he hurt bad?"

"Shot in the leg. He's weak and delirious. Must have lost a lot of blood. His boot was full of it when he took it off."

"Win here?"

"He went to find you and to get Doctor Peters. Didn't you meet him?"

"He musta taken the cutoff," Jim suggested.

Cliff left his horse for Jim to look after while he followed Willa to her room. One glance told him that the young man was very ill. He might recover, probably would, since Stewart was of strong constitution and very likely had great recuperative powers. But he would not be able to look out for himself for weeks.

This was awkward. Joe Fallon would learn that Stewart was here and would probably want the sick man delivered to him. Wylie foresaw complications that might be serious. But there was nothing he could do about that now. The matter had been taken out of his hands.

"How long since Win left?" he asked.

"Nearly an hour ago."

"He'd ought to be back with doc in another hour then. I don't reckon there's anything more we can do for him till then except kinda nurse him. Looks

# The LAST SHOT

by

WILLIAM MACLEOD RAIN

Illustrated by Leonard Watson

like a pretty sick boy, if you ask me."

"You don't think he . . . won't live?" Willa asked with a catch in her voice.

"Oh, he'll live, likely. But he'll be pretty no'-count for quite some spell. Can you look after him now? I got a little business to attend to."

"Yes. I haven't a thing else to do. I . . . I want to."

"Good enough. I'll take a look in soon."

Cliff met Jim in the hall and led him into what would now be called the living-room. He closed the door carefully behind him.

"Trouble blowin' up, son, looks like," he said.

"Because he's here?"

"Yep. Joe's not gonna like it."

"Will he know?"

"Sure to. Probably about soon as Win hits town an' sees doc. You know how it is in Mesa. Everybody will want to know who doc is comin' to see."



## Who's Who in the Story

*Wesley Stewart, a young man who came riding desperately, and pleaded to be hidden in the Wylie home until his pursuers had passed.*

*Willa Wylie, alone in the house when he arrived and who hid him in a cellar under her room. She met the five riders from the Eaton outfit, led by Lem Morris. They demanded that she let them search the house for the man they declared was a rogue and a horse thief. Not finding their man they departed.*

*Cliff Wylie, father of Willa and two grown sons, Jim and Win, who arrived shortly afterwards. He was the head of organized resistance to the big ranchers, who were fencing off the cattle range. How far Wylie and his sons had gone in their resistance was not known to Willa, who was gravely concerned that the men of her family might somehow be mixed up in the activities of:*

*Joe Fallon and his outlaw gang. Chief of these were Dug Howard, Denver Pete and Scarnecked Mike. Riding one day near Star Lake, Willa came upon Wes Stewart, apparently on the lookout while Fallon's men branded cattle they had rustled. He fired a shot into the air, and the men disappeared. Willa bitterly reproached Stewart. A few minutes later he saved her life as she fell trying to get down the mountainside.*



"Tha's right," Jim assented. Then, inevitably, "What do you aim to do about it?" he asked.

"First off, I aim to see my guns are workin' right."

"You won't give Stewart up to Joe?"

Cliff stood before his son, strong, slightly bow-legged, a grim grey frontiers-man. "What do you think, boy?"

"I knew you wouldn't," Jim answered with a pulse of excitement beating through him.

"Then you knew right. If Joe gets him he'll have to fight for him."

"I don't hardly think he'd go that far," Jim replied, after reflection.

"You never can tell. He's crazy mad. We'll make sure our powder's dry, as the old sayin' is."

They cleaned their revolvers and the rifle hanging on the wall supported by the antlers of an Elk's head. They loaded the weapons and made sure plenty of ammunition was handy.

"I don't expect to get to makin' smoke. Joe can't hardly afford to call for a showdown with me. But he's mighty high-headed about getting his own way. He might break loose."

Within the expected hour Win and Doctor Peters arrived. The doctor confirmed Cliff's opinion, with the usual medical reservations. If there was no blood poisoning and if there were no unexpected complications the patient ought to build up the lost blood and win through.

"I'd stay all night if I didn't have to get back to Mesa to look after that man they call Denver Pete. But there's not much that I can do. Follow the directions I've laid down, Miss Wylie. Keep him quiet. Don't let him excite himself. A teaspoonful of the liquid every three hours and two of the powders an hour apart if he does not sleep. I'll be back in the morning." With which the doctor returned to his other patient, one about whose condition he was more troubled.

Night crept over the hills. A million stars and a thin shaving of a moon came out. The temperature dropped, as it does in the Rockies after the sun sets.

**WILLA** watched her fevered patient toss restlessly and when he seemed unable to sleep gave him the powders as directed. Soon he was falling into a drowsy quiet and presently his eyes closed. She sat very still for a time, then moved to the window and looked out. For she had heard the sound of horses' hoofs in the yard.

Four men had ridden up and were dismounting.

The girl's heart fluttered. She had a prescient sense of impending trouble. The outlaws from Martin's Hole had come to exact vengeance. She guessed that, for the first rider coming up the steps to the porch was Joe Fallon. She recognized his big, strong, shambling body.

What would her father do? Would he surrender to these wolves the guest involuntarily cast upon him? Or would he refuse to give him up? And if he thwarted Fallon would the latter attempt to drive through to his end anyhow?

Fear clutched at the girl's throat. Never in her young life had she been flung so ruthlessly into the midst of red tragedy. It was not for herself that she was afraid, but for her father, her brothers, this man lying helpless on the bed before her. She was used to thinking of these night riders from the Hole all-powerful in their wickedness.

Voices came up from below. She listened, every nerve keyed to tension. The speakers were her father and Joe Fallon. The outlaw's tone was harsh and excited, her father's quiet and cool. Willa wished she could see them from where she stood. She hesitated, uncertain whether to go downstairs or to stay where she was.

"I hear you've got him for me, Cliff," was Fallon's first word.

"No, Joe." In spite of her fear, of her anxiety, Willa thrilled to the soft voiced decision of that answer. It held no doubt or vacillation. She was proud of her father.

"Whajamean? He's here, ain't he?" demanded Fallon, raising his voice.

"Yes, he's here . . . if you mean Stewart. But he's badly wounded."

Fallon's barking laugh was hard and cruel. "Suits me all right. I'll take the guy right as he is."

Once more Wylie answered quietly. "No, Joe."

"No what?" rasped the other. "If he's here he's my meat."

"He's here, but you can't have him. Not just now."

"I'd like to know why I can't. What's eatin' you, Cliff? This fellow's nothin' to you."

Willa could imagine the man, standing there with feet straddled, chin thrust forward savagely, impatient with the lust to kill his foe; and to her terrified fancy he was the impersonation of brutal force. The terror mounted in her. She wanted to scream aloud, to beg him not to hurt her father.

## THE COUNTRY GUIDE

Then Cliff's voice came again, still modulated to a low tone that rang out clear as a bell.

"Get this right, Joe," he said. "I'm not in this row, soon as the boy gets well enough to leave the CW. But right now . . . Well, that's different. You see, Willa found him lying on the road up here a ways. He had swooned from loss of blood. She brought him here. That was before Jim an' me got home. He ain't overly welcome. Tha's a fact. But the mischief's done. He's my guest, whether I like it or not, an' I've got to look after him."

"He won't be yore guest if you kick him out on to the road again," Fallon said, and added a string of epithets about the man he wanted.

"Can't do that, Joe. He's a mighty sick man. If it had been you that had been brought here the way he was, why I'd stand by you just the same. Don't you see how I'm fixed?"

"Hell's bells, you can't pull that stuff on me, Cliff," the outlaw burst out. "Think I don't know he came on over Big Ben? Think I'm a born fool? You've lined up with him for some reason. Well, I won't have it. I'll learn you who's runnin' this neck of the woods."

"Don't push on the reins, Joe," Willa heard her father say, and the manner of his saying it was a warning.

"Better step aside, Cliff. I'm going through," came Fallon's voice thick with passion.

Willa could stand no more. In a moment now bullets would be flying. She was persuaded. She flew out of the room and down the stairs to the porch.

In the doorway, behind her father, stood both of her brothers. They were in the shadow where they could not be seen clearly from outside. Willa noticed that though her father had drawn no weapon both Win and Jim had their hands on the butts of their six-shooters. They were poised for instant action, to get the benefit of that fraction of a second's advantage in the draw.

**S**CARNECKED MIKE was speaking, and with an ingratiating whine. "We're not lookin' for no trouble, boys. You-all are our friends. We sure know that, but it don't seem right friendly to stand between us an' this murderin' killer. He ain't worth all this fuss among neighbors. That kind of a skunk is better dead anyhow, don't you reckon? Seems that away to me."

"I'm not competent to answer that question, Mike. I expect if we all took a vote on who would be better dead there'd be a right smart difference of opinion. I'm not passin' any moral judgments. All I'm saying is that Willa brought this boy here practically unconscious, an' that after he came into my house he's my guest. I can't throw down on him. Tha's all there's to it."

"Not on yore tintype, Cliff," Fallon broke in roughly. "There's a heap more to it. Are you with us or against us? I don't like the way you're acting, if you ask me."

Wylie looked at him from cold unflinching eyes. "I'm not askin' you, Joe. I'm tellin' you. You said something a while ago about runnin' this neck of the woods. That calls for a showdown. Do you mean you're runnin' me?"

Fallon did not accept the challenge directly. "I mean that nobody can stand between me an' the fellow who killed my friends."

"We've threshed that out, Joe. I'm not standin' between you an' him. Shouldn't think you'd want to kill him while he can't defend himself. Anyhow, it can't be done in my house. Soon as he's able to travel,

you an' Stewart can go to fannin' yore guns quick as you like. That's fair enough, isn't it?"

One of the men from the Hole spoke up. "Better leave her go as she lays, Joe. We'll get this son-of-a-gun Stewart all right. What's a few days matter anyhow?"

But even now, though he knew he was beaten, Fallon could not bear to give up his purpose.

"I see you back there, Win, an' I'll remember it. You're not too good to go on night rides with me an' the boys, but you throw down on us when we need yore help," he said sullenly.

"Would you expect me to side with you against my own family, Joe?" asked Win with spirit. "If so, you've sure got another think coming."

Willa moved forward into view. "I'd think you'd be ashamed, Joe Fallon, to come here with three men to kill one poor wounded boy," she flung at him.

The blood darkened his heavy face. "What's he to you?" the man demanded furiously. "Why for did you go out an' drag him in from the road? Tha's what I want to know."

"He's nothing to me, and it's none of your business if he was," she answered.

Her father laid a hand on Willa's arm. "Go into the house, girl, an' stay there. This is no place for you," he told her.

Willa went, reluctantly. She was not sure, even yet, that something might not be said which would fan Fallon's temper to the explosion point. Her own intervention had been worse than useless. It had suggested to the outlaw another reason for hating Stewart and for destroying him. And he had reasons enough already.

From the window of the bedroom Willa watched the men from the Hole draw back from the house. With them was her brother Win. Fallon drew him aside and seemed to be urging some course upon him. Win at last nodded once or twice,

The sentence died away. It was complete in meaning, even though not grammatically.

"Don't you try an' run me," he countered irritably. "I'm big enough to tend my own affairs, so you just lay off'n them. Seems to me you've made enough trouble already."

"What you mean? How've I made trouble?"

"Told Fallon, didn't you, about this Stewart being in the Hole, about his being up in the rocks watching the brandin'?"

"Well, what if I did? How did that make trouble?"

"Say, those fellows in the park were rustlin'. Say Joe was in on it. Mind, I don't admit either the one or the other, but just for argument. All right, you go an' tell Joe that this Stewart was watchin' him with field glasses. D'you reckon Joe is gonna stand for that?"

"But this Stewart was a lookout. He was in on the rustling."

"How do you know he was?"

**W**ILLA stared at her brother. This was a new point of view. Was it possible that Stewart had not been one of the gang she had seen operating? If not, why had he fired that warning shot? He might have done it to keep her from riding down into the park on account of the danger to her of catching rustlers redhanded. But he had refused to let her look through the glasses. There could be no reason for that except complicity on his own part . . . unless there was a special reason why he did not want her to recognize the men.

And what special reason could there be? There jumped to her mind a possible one, but instinctively she rejected it. He might have refused to let her look through the field glasses because one of her own family was among the rustlers. If one of her own family, it must be Win. He was weak. At times he drank too much, usually when with Fallon. There was a streak of wildness in him. But no . . . he could not be a rustler, a thief.

Yet she looked at him, a question in her eyes and at the tip of her tongue, a question she did not dare to ask in words. For she did not want to verify the fear that had come once more to her mind. She asked instead a quite different question.

"Do you mean that Stewart wasn't a lookout for them?"

Win began to think he had said too much. "I don't mean a thing, except that you're always buttin' in where you hadn't ought to. What I say is, you're too darned ready to jump on other folks instead of yore own self."

Turn to page 28



In this stirring chapter Stewart, again in the Wylie home, comes face to face with the outlaw Fallon

rather sulkily she thought, as though he had been driven to promise something he did not quite approve.

Fallon flung himself on his horse and called to Win, "See you do then," after which he followed his companions to the road and disappeared in the darkness.

At the first opportunity Willa lay in wait for Win.

"What was it you promised Joe Fallon?" she asked bluntly.

Her brother's answer was no less direct. "Suppose you try mindin' yore own business for a change."

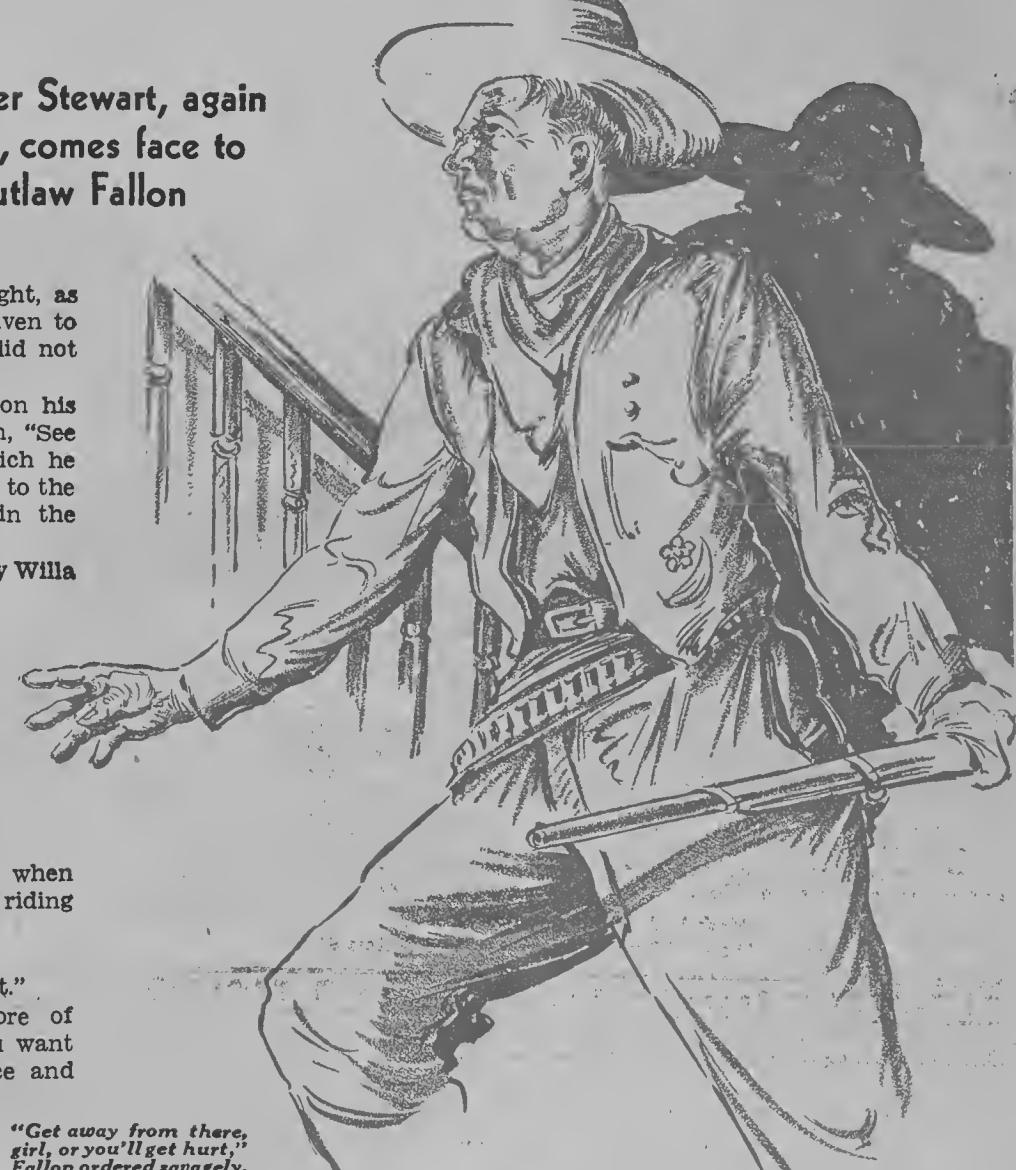
"I am minding it. And what did he mean when he said you went night riding with him?"

"He didn't say that."

"He as good as said it."

"All right. Some more of other folks' business you want to look after." His voice and manner were sullen.

"If you're in with that ruffian in any of his deviltry, Win . . ."



"Get away from there, girl, or you'll get hurt," Fallon ordered savagely. "He made as though to rush the stairway."

# SCOUTING AROUND

## With Guide Notebook and Camera

### Guardsman and Pioneer

LAST fall Col. C. E. Ivens announced that he was retiring from the reeveship of Wallace municipality. The trading centre of Wallace is Virden, Manitoba. Well into the eighties, and with a record of 35 years as reeve behind him, he has handed the torch to younger hands. But a look at his portrait, which I took last October, shows that he still has his chin up, as befits a man who was a Scots Guardsman in his early years in old London.

Col. Ivens would want no higher tribute than to say that he is a pioneer in a double sense. He homesteaded and pre-empted his first land and he was a pioneer of the good roads movement in Manitoba. Wallace was one of the very first municipalities to come under the provincial good roads scheme. The money by-laws were passed in 1913 and construction began in 1914. I recall that in 1917 I visited Virden and was taken over miles and miles of new roads by the Colonel and the municipal engineer, Sam Button. The municipality, over the years, has issued \$246,000 of good roads debentures and the provincial government has contributed an equal amount. It has never missed a payment on its bonds. In those early days Col. Ivens was in demand all over the province to speak on good roads. He was an apostle of the movement.

Of late years the municipality has been improving its water resources. "We

have thousands of acres of good pasture land that was useless in dry years for lack of water," he said. "We are now getting water on most of it. In 1939 we got a caterpillar tractor and a six-foot scraper and dug 70 dugouts that fall. We are still digging them. Dugouts save pumping and the water is there when the cattle want it. We work with the P.F.R.A."

Col. Ivens told me that he had taken the Nor-West Farmer since 1886 and still, of course, gets it, now that it is amalgamated with this great family journal. He recalls that in the '90's Richard Waugh, whom old-timers will remember as the editor of The Nor-West Farmer, visited him and wrote up his crop rotation plan. It was fallow, wheat seeded to timothy, hay, pasture plowed up in July, followed by wheat, barley, oats and fallow. The manure was put on the sod and the land shows the value of it to this day.

He is now retired in Virden. His son, who was on one of his farms, died in 1937, and it is now operated by a tenant who came in from Saskatchewan and is doing well. A son-in-law is on the other farm.

And here's a salute to one of the grand old men of prairie agriculture, who in his youth served for six years in the Scots Guards and still has the bearing of a Guardsman.—R.D.C.

### Forty Years An Alberta Farmer

PAUL L. FARNALLS, Halkirk, Alberta, homesteaded in 1904, having reached Alberta from Pennsylvania. He now operates a section and a half, of which one-half is rented, and a total of 400 acres are under cultivation. He operates a mixed farm, on which a herd of 30 to 40 beef cattle are maintained, including 21 grade Shorthorn cows and a purebred sire. At the time of my visit, in July, there were also 10 sows kept.

Mr. Farnalls now sells his

cattle off grass when they are two years old, although formerly he used to sell in the fall, as calves. More recently, however, buyers have been "buying for weight," which accounts for the change in policy. Formerly, too, he had Angus cattle, but found that they kept getting finer in the bone, and this brought about the change to the red and whites.

Barley doesn't enter into his feed program very much, the district not being a good barley country. The grain mixture fed to livestock varies somewhat with the amount and kinds available. During the last three years it has changed from about 50 per cent of barley or better, to a mixture including 25 per cent of wheat, and latterly, to wheat and oats used half and half, with some barley.

Wild oats are regarded by Mr. Farnalls as the worst weed in the district, and so far he has not been able to discover any best method for their control. It doesn't seem to follow that the fields that are best cared for are freest of this very prevalent weed, and sometimes the exact opposite seems to be the case. Perennial sow thistle has so far not proven to be a problem; not nearly as much, in fact, as the Canada thistle. Whether it holds true or not, Mr. Farnalls said that some years ago Canada thistle seemed to disappear, and then later came in again. Perhaps this was a result of the drought years which forced it to live for a time on the strength of its reserve root stocks deep underground, which, when moisture conditions became more favorable, permitted the plant to develop and multiply along the surface.

Mr. Farnalls had an interesting comment on the subject of co-operation in rural districts which might possibly be applicable more or less in other districts.

He pointed out that before World War I farmers in the vicinity of Halkirk organized a co-operative elevator, which was successful and made some money for them. It was so successful that somebody else wanted to buy it, and it was sold. Having done well with the elevator, it was decided to organize co-operative store, but eventually the store was lost through bad management. All of which means that when farmers have a co-operative organization that is doing well, they will be wise to remember that selling the business is not the same thing at all as selling private business; and co-operative property is only valuable to the extent it is used for the purpose of co-operation. This experience at Halkirk would also seem to indicate that making a success of one kind of co-operation does not mean success in another.

Mr. Farnalls had an interesting hot water system in his house which is also unusual on western farms. The stove in the kitchen was equipped with water front from which hot water is piped to a tank in the bathroom upstairs. A sink in the kitchen, and another on the opposite side of the wall in the outer kitchen, were also provided with hot water taps, and it seemed to me that this second sink in the outside kitchen was a particularly good idea. It not only provided a place for the men to wash; where they could keep out of the way of the women folk bus in the kitchen, but it saved many steps in the summertime, or on any occasion when the outer kitchen might have been used for washing and other household work. A wind charger was also in operation, and while not used to operate an heating equipment, it operated the washing machine.

Mr. Farnalls has been interested in growing fruit for many years, although the shortage of labor under present conditions has reduced the amount of time that can be spent on orchard and garden. The first fruit trees were planted in 1907, and the variety Tony, of which two trees are left, has always borne a large crop. Transcendent has borne regularly since 1923, with the exception of one year. Sap and Opata generally kill back, and Assiniboine Plum has no

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Top: Col. C. E. Ivens, veteran reeve and pioneer of the Good Roads Movement.

Above: The six-foot Combine set to harvest sunflower seed on Elmer G. Langtry's farm.

Right: Pea-harvester guards on a six-foot combine. They did a good job for Allen McCallister.

Above: The Norton Court farmstead at Grenfell, Sask., where Gordon Loveridge and his father before him have stayed with dairying and developed a sound farming proposition. Top, oval: Eighty-year-old A. J. Loveridge, who homesteaded in 1884, still helps out occasionally and is shown here with Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Loveridge.

# THE Country GUIDE

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## For the Coming Year

To all its readers The Country Guide extends its best wishes for a Happy and Victorious New Year. May it see the final triumph of the forces of peace and light over the powers of destruction and darkness. If that supreme achievement can be attained, though the cost may be grievous, 1944 will be indeed, for all humanity, a Happy and Epochal Year.

## Britain Needs the Bacon

Britain wants Canadian bacon. She needs every pound that can be sent across the Atlantic. No bungling or muddling by the government alters that fact. If the bacon is not forthcoming in greater quantities than 450 million pounds a year, the British will have to cut their bacon ration from a measly four ounces a week to three ounces. Four ounces are not enough. Three ounces are not anywhere near enough.

There are farmers in this country who don't like growing hogs; who didn't know very much about growing them a couple of years ago and who are not particularly skilful at growing them yet. Still they have felt that it was a duty for them to grow hogs. Many others who normally produce some hogs have stepped up their production to help meet the need. They all want the British people to be adequately fed. They, yes, and their women-folk too, have been willing to do what they could to keep that bacon ration up to at least four ounces. To them the same incentive still remains. Britain still needs Canadian bacon. She needs it to maintain a minimum of four ounces—a quarter of a pound—barely enough to cover the bottom of a frying pan—this little bit of bacon for an adult worker for one whole week—seven days.

On behalf of Britain, Col. J. I. Llewellyn, who has succeeded Lord Woolton as minister of food, has asked Canadian farmers to try to maintain the present bacon ration, which barely covers essential needs. There are farmers who will do their part in providing it. They will not let the British people down. The Canadian government has let them down and it has let the Canadian hog producer down. It cannot fully restore hog production in this country to its former level, but it can still do something to repair the damage it has wrought. If shipments to Britain fall below the needed 600 million pounds a year, the responsibility will rest squarely on the shoulders of the federal government.

## Hardwood Floors

No matter what the outcome of the next federal election, the farmers are assured of a floor under prices. Premier Mackenzie King has given notice that legislation providing the floor will be introduced at the next session. Mr. Bracken, in his Lethbridge speech, included in his new charter for Canadian agriculture, a price floor for major export farm products, below which they would not be permitted to fall. The C.C.F. is less specific, but promises a parity policy for farm prices and machinery for mar-

## THE COUNTRY GUIDE

keting agricultural produce through government boards with producer and consumer representation.

In normal times the prices of Canada's chief agricultural products are governed by the export market. This is true of wheat, hogs, cattle, dairy products and several minor commodities. There are two ways by which a price floor can be provided. The first is by a subsidy from the federal treasury if export price levels fall below the floor. The other envisions an entirely new setup in the field of international marketing by which surpluses would move in international trade under special agreements as to price levels.

Neither method could be instituted without difficulty. The first would be, in practice, a system of subsidized exports, which packs a lot of political dynamite on the home front, and a still greater load of T.N.T. on the international front. The greater hope seems to be in international agreements for the stabilization of exchange and the control of price levels. In the rehabilitation of Europe the nations are going to accumulate a lot of experience in working together on this very matter. Out of that experience they may evolve plans for the international exchange of goods, including farm products, by which the farmers of surplus-producing countries would be saved from periodic depressions. If the world is to be free from want, there is little danger of serious surpluses of food piling up. The final market is the human stomach and countless millions of them have never known what it was to be adequately filled.

## Hang On To Your Victory Bonds

Listen to this:

Canada needs more promoters, men with energy, imagination and drive, to get new projects under way, push out Canada's frontiers, strengthen and enlarge our economic structure, create new employment.

This country has had hundreds of promoters who have done just this vital job; provided new outlets for special funds, given the public a fair chance to risk money in honestly operated ventures. But right now, Canada, and particularly Toronto, is infested with a gang of "crooked wheel," "loaded dice" financial hooligans. War work has produced a new crop of people tragically inexperienced in speculation and investment. Accumulation of funds in Victory Bonds has created many fleeces to be shorn. High taxes and tax-free capital gains helped induce many citizens to fall for the highly developed technique of the stock racketeer.

Day and night these high pressure experts are on the telephones near and far, spouting their carefully prepared sales talk, urging immediate action, promising easy profits, telling lies about the speculation they have to offer. Thousands of circulars, tip sheets, "confidential letters," "inside market dope" letters and other material, designed to get names for racketeer sucker lists or to sell their stocks, go into the mails every day. . . . Squads of telephone sales specialists work at one brokerage address on one stock for a week or two; switch over to another boiler room at a different address to "turn the heat" on another stock. . . . Some of these mobsters have long records of unconscionable stock racketeering extending over many years. Some have done business under two or three different aliases. Some are in Canada because the United States Securities and Exchange Commission has made things too hot for them to continue to operate there."

The above quotations are not from some radical sheet, published by a group of Socialists or social reformers. They are from a front page editorial in The Financial Post of November 27. It says that control for sale of securities in Ontario ceased to function during the regimes of Premiers Hepburn and Conant. It was more effective under the Henry government, when the present premier of Ontario, Col. George Drew, was Ontario's Securities Commissioner. The Financial Post calls on Mr. Drew to take the situation in hand.

The conditions revealed by The Financial Post should put the people of this country on guard. Any man who tries to induce them to cash their Victory Bonds and invest the money in speculative ventures is a crook and a shyster. Honest brokers are not doing that kind of thing. But that is not all. If this country is to go through

any purification process as a result of the war its economic system will have to be cleansed of the whole nefarious brood of fake promoters. And that goes for the high financiers who are always standing watchfully by, ready to recapitalizize prosperous concerns and fleece the public. The chief abuses of the capitalistic system, which is now under heavy shell fire in Canada, are in the realm of finance. In that segment of the national economy, not fewer controls but more of them are needed.

## Conscientious Land Grabbers

A year ago last fall there was a flare-up of public indignation in the Portage la Prairie district over the purchase by a Hutterite colony of some of the best farms in the area, for sale because the young men of the families were in uniform and those who were left could not carry on. A repetition of this state of affairs has occurred in southern Alberta, where several good ranches have been acquired by this sect under the same condition and for the same reason. The Hutterites, being conscientious objectors, are thriving under war conditions. Their manpower is unimpaired by the war and they are able to pick up good farms and ranches coming on the market, and to man them.

The Director of the Veterans Land Act is in the market for farm lands. It needs farms for returned soldiers, but is meeting competition from Hutterites and others whose conscientious objections to bearing arms do not preclude them from taking advantage of war conditions to the disadvantage of young men who are doing their duty.

Legislation passed at the last session of the Alberta legislature to prevent Hutterites and enemy aliens from acquiring more land during the war was disallowed by the federal government as ultra vires. The Alberta Association of Municipal Districts, at its convention in November, vigorously protested against allowing such land transfers. The Lethbridge Board of Trade has made the constructive suggestion that if these sects have more manpower than can be used on their present holdings, the surplus labor could be used in other projects, including help on farms whose young men are with the colors.

## Setting An Example

There are some things about this British Empire concerning which the citizens thereof should occasionally remind themselves. Every one knows, of course, that the self-governing dominions are free and equal partners with Great Britain; that they have full control over their domestic and foreign affairs; that they have their own representatives at foreign capitals and that they entered the war entirely of their own volition.

It is pretty well known that no part of the Empire pays a penny of taxes to Great Britain. But how many know that in 1940, with the war raging, parliament at Westminster provided that £11 million sterling, which had been loaned to the colonies, would be converted into a gift, and that right now £50 million, spread over ten years, is being paid to the colonies to develop their resources and improve their standards of living.

British colonies buy only 25 per cent of their imports from Britain. Over half their trade is with foreign countries. They are perfectly free to trade where they will. Twice as much British capital is invested in Argentina, which is not in this war, as in all British colonies put together. In India there are less than 1,000 Europeans in the civil service and less than 500 Europeans in the police force.

There have been mistakes and regrettable incidents in colonial administration, but, as Herbert Morrison, Socialist member of the Churchill government, pointed out not long ago, they have for the most part been mistakes of neglect and carelessness rather than of greed and cupidity. What the world is striving for is to put international relations on as harmonious a basis as that which now exists among the nations of the British Commonwealth.

# NEWS

*of*

# AGRICULTURE

## New Veterinary Director-General Appointed

DR. A. E. CAMERON, who retired in March, 1943, as Veterinary Director-General for Canada, has been succeeded by Dr. Mark Barker, whose appointment was announced December 21 by the Dominion Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Barker came West in 1900 from an Ontario farm and joined the Royal North West Mounted Police. He later engaged for a time in ranching, and then attended the Ontario Veterinary College, from which he was graduated in 1907. After practising for a time in Calgary, he was appointed veterinary inspector in October, 1908, to the Meat Inspection Service (Edmonton) of the Dominion Department of Agriculture. In 1911 he was transferred to Saskatchewan, and in 1920 was made District Veterinary Inspector at Regina, where he was in charge of all the work of the Dominion Health of Animals Division in Saskatchewan. In 1939 Dr. Barker was moved to Ottawa as Chief Veterinary Inspector. Since March, 1943, he has been Acting Veterinary Director-General. It is also of importance to note that Dr. Barker is highly respected in both professional and private circles.

## Board Sets Year-Round Lamb Ceilings

IN view of the disturbance among sheep men following the sharp drop in lamb prices September 1, 1943, the W.P.T.B. has devised what it believes to be a more simplified and uniform year-round lamb price structure in the hope of giving producers a greater measure of confidence in planning their production programs. The Board also believes the new policy will enable producers to obtain better prices for live lambs in September and December, when the demand is generally greater than the supply.

Effective January 3, wholesale ceiling prices for spring lambs have been fixed at 34 cents per pound, carcass basis, for zone 6, which includes Toronto and southwestern Ontario. This price covers the period from January 3 to April 30, while from May 1 to June 30 the price in zone 6 will be 30 cents per pound. Corresponding ceilings for spring lambs in zone 10 (Manitoba) are 32½ and 28½ cents per pound for the two periods; in zone 11 (Saskatchewan) 32¼ and 28¼ cents per pound; and in zone 12 (the main portion of Alberta), 32 and 28 cents per pound.

The year-round ceiling prices on dressed lamb will commence July 1, 1944, with an over-all wholesale ceiling price of 26¼ cents per pound, carcass basis, in zone 6, with ceilings in other zones according to customary differentials between zones. This difference can be calculated from the spring lamb ceilings given above.

## Increase Production Per Male Worker

DR. E. C. HOPE, head of the Department of Farm Management, University of Saskatchewan, speaking recently before the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers in Chicago, pointed to a phenomenal increase in the production per male worker of Canadian farms since 1938-39. This increase, together with the increased physical volume of production, is shown in the accompanying charts. We quote what follows, from Dr. Hope:

"Starting with an estimated figure of 1,365,000 male farm workers in March, 1939, this had dwindled to 1,020,000 by March, 1943. If we add the estimated natural male increase of 50,000 for this period it is apparent that Canadian agriculture has contributed about 400,000 males to the armed forces and industry, since the start of the war."

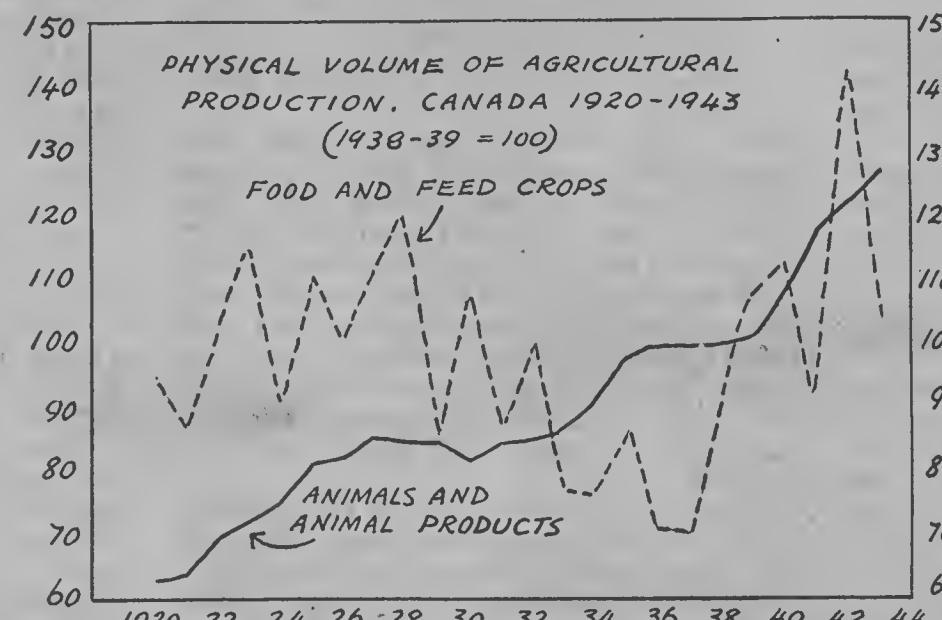
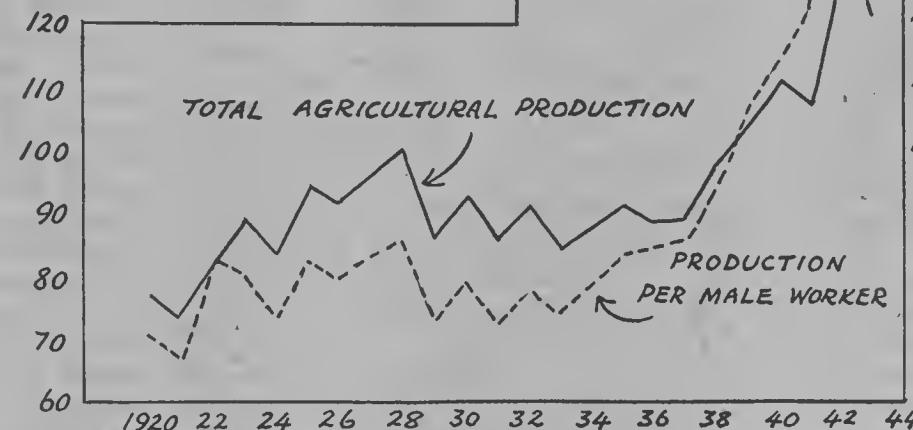
"The physical volume of total agricultural production shows a steady up-



Dr. Mark Barker, newly appointed Veterinary Director-General for Canada

ward trend from 1920 to 1928, a slight decline during the eight year drought ending in 1937 and a recovery to the long-time trend by 1938-39. During the four years of war, agricultural production has risen rapidly in spite of the decline in the number of male agricultural workers. By 1943 the index of production stood at 32 per cent above the average of the two years 1938-39.

"The estimated production for 1943 is a little lower due to a decline in crop yields from the record levels of 1942. This rapid expansion in agricultural production, coinciding with the reduction in male workers, has resulted in a phenomenal increase in production per male worker. Based on 1938-39=100 the production index per male worker was 166 in 1942 and 163 in 1943."



The chart just above, prepared by Dr. E. C. Hope, shows the volume of Canadian agricultural production from 1920 to 1943, for crops and livestock separately. In the top chart Dr. Hope shows the average production per male agricultural worker, which, notwithstanding the drain of 400,000 men from Canadian farms has risen surprisingly during the war years.

## New Egg Agreement With Britain

IT was announced just before the New Year by the Special Products Board at Ottawa that a new agreement has been reached with the United Kingdom under which Britain will take all the eggs Canada can supply during 1944, without any stipulation of quantity. Last year Canada undertook to supply about 62 million dozens, and the price varied from 34 to 37 cents per dozen for Grade A Large, Montreal. The quantity shipped during the year was less than 40 million dozens.

In 1944, prices will be established for the entire year and will be based on 35½ cents per dozen for Grade A Large, at Halifax, Quebec and Montreal. Toronto price will be 35 cents; Winnipeg 34½c; Regina 34c; Calgary and Edmonton 33½c; and Vancouver, 33 cents. The price for Grade A Medium eggs will be two cents below Grade A Large. Grade B will be five cents lower, and Grade A Pullet eggs, eight cents lower.

## Britain Wants One Cooked Breakfast

WHEN Col. the Rt. Hon. John I. Llewellyn, British Minister of Food, spoke to the Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Conference at Ottawa in December, he said:

"The one thing that gives us concern in the rationing is bacon—or hogs. I know how difficult it is to keep up hog production in Canada, but if we cannot get more than 450 million pounds next

year, then the ration will eventually have to be cut from four to three ounce. I would like to appeal to you to make a full drive to help maintain the present bacon ration of four ounces per person per week."

His secretary, Mr. J. P. R. Maud, who has been assisting with the British Ministry of Food since the outbreak of war, said on the same occasion:

"Breakfast is the one meal in the day which is rather unsatisfactory. For most of us it consists of tea, toast, with little margarine to spread on the toast and less marmalade to spread on the margarine. Then there is porridge which, because of the milk shortage, is rather thick. Did we not have the four ounces bacon ration, it would be impossible for us to have even the one cooked breakfast to which we look forward every week."

On the return of the British Minister to England, he told a press conference:

"I hope, by going to Canada, I have saved my bacon. I got a different target figure into their heads (600 million pounds), and I hope they will meet it."

It was while the British Minister was in Ottawa that the Hon. J. G. Gardiner first mentioned an objective of 600 million pounds for 1944.

## First Production Co-operative

WHAT is probably the first association of farmers organized in western Canada to purchase, own and operate farm machinery and equipment on a co-operative basis, was recently incorporated in Saskatchewan as the Round Hill Agricultural Production Co-operative Association.

Machinery bought by the Association will be used on the farms of all members and the individual farm member will no longer find it necessary to own a full line of farm equipment. It is anticipated by B. N. Arnason, Co-operation and Markets Commissioner for the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture that similar co-operatives will be formed in other parts of Saskatchewan.

## Saskatchewan Plans Production

IMMEDIATELY following the Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Conference at Ottawa in December, Saskatchewan held a Provincial Conference under the chairmanship of Dr. F. H. Auld, deputy minister of agriculture, at which the problems of 1944 production were thoroughly canvassed. A significant recommendation of the Provincial Conference was that a special branch be created to develop and maintain contacts between farmers in individual municipalities and all of the agencies in the Province having to do with experimental, educational and administrative work in agriculture. It was felt that some close form of co-ordination such as this would be necessary during the difficult postwar period, as well as during the war.

Generally speaking, the Saskatchewan objectives for 1944 will be the same as in 1943. In some lines, such as oil crops, forage crops, potatoes, honey and poultry, increases are desired if farmers can bring them about. The farm labor committee felt that if farm labor could be held at the 1943 level it would be possible to maintain the 1943 production level. The farm machinery and supplies committee thoroughly canvassed the farm machinery situation and recommended that substantial increases in the number of swathers and pick-ups, as well as seeding attachments for one-way discs, be provided. The farm machinery committee also advised that the time was ripe for standardizing farm machinery by means of testing stations (and legislation if necessary), in order to protect farmers from the sale of machinery introduced without proper proof of suitability and need.

# THE WORLD OF AGRICULTURE MOVES FORWARD

## with the MASSEY-HARRIS SELF-PROPELLED COMBINE

● A new era in the development of modern design farm equipment has been ushered in by the Massey-Harris self-propelled combine. This revolutionary machine has opened up new possibilities for the post-war development of self-propelled machines that will offer greater advantages in the saving of time, labour and money.

In the steady progress towards mastery of agricultural problems, good equipment has played an important part. The perfection of the Massey-Harris self-propelled combine is another forward step in the direction of easier and more profitable farming.

• • •

*To take care of essential requirements the production of new farm machinery for 1944 has been set at 80% of 1940. If you need new machines place your order with your local Massey-Harris dealer who will help you fill out the "essentially application" form necessary under the government rationing plan.*



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DE LAVAL  
SPEEDWAY METHOD  
OF FAST MILKING**

**EASY TO FOLLOW**

**IMMEDIATE RESULTS**

1. Be regular—start the milking at the same time each milking.

2. Have everything in readiness—avoid unnecessary noise, confusion or distraction of any kind in the barn at milking time. Study your milking routine to eliminate every unnecessary move.

3. Preparation of the cow—Thoroughly wipe the udder of each cow, just before it is her turn to be milked, with a clean cloth which has been immersed in good warm water (130° F.) containing 250 parts per million of available chlorine. Follow immediately with Step 4.

4. Use of the Strip Cup—Next, using a full hand squeeze, draw a few streams of

milk from each quarter into strip cup. Inspect for abnormal milk; if present, milk cow last. (Steps 3 and 4 induce rapid let-down of the milk.)

5. Apply teat-cups immediately after using Strip Cup. Hold and apply teat-cups properly so that no vacuum is lost and least amount of air is admitted.

6. Teat-cups should be removed from cow at end of 3 to 4 minutes. Hand stripping should be employed chiefly for purposes of inspection, and should consist of only a few full hand squeezes from each quarter. Do not prolong hand stripping. Machine stripping can be done just before removing teat-cups by massaging each quarter briefly.

### TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR DE LAVAL SEPARATOR



Your De Laval Separator is one of your most important pieces of farm equipment. Designed for maximum service, built by craftsmen, of the highest quality materials, it will serve you long and efficiently. Your observance of the three simple steps shown opposite will help it do so.

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Do not burn or destroy this publication. When you are through with it, give it to a salvage organization. It is needed for Victory.



Pure-bred Yorkshire sows in winter quarters at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. Photo: Courtesy Animal Husbandry Division

### Will Pigs Make Money Now?

A VERY timely opinion as to the possibility of producing hogs profitably under present costs has come from the Alberta Department of Agriculture, just in time to be included in this issue. Sponsored by the department, it is the joint work and the considered opinion of Dean R. D. Sinclair, University of Alberta; H. E. Wilson Dominion experimental farm, Lacombe; and Peter Wyllie, sheep and swine specialist in the department of agriculture.

Both Lacombe and the University had made estimates of production costs based on years of experience with hundreds of hogs annually at each institution; and although there is variation in detail between the two estimates it is remarkable that they agree so closely in the total cost of production per pig, namely, \$20.33 in the University estimate and \$20.60 in the Lacombe estimate as the total cost of bringing a 200-pound pig to market weight. Similarly, in the item of total feed costs, these two estimates agree very closely, the University estimate being \$12.63 per pig and the Lacombe estimate being \$13.60 per pig. The difference is only 97 cents per pig as to feed costs. Another difference is that the University estimate allows only \$3.00 per pig for labor and the Lacombe allowance is \$4.00 per pig. On the other hand, the University estimate for interest and depreciation on capital investment per pig is \$2.59 as against \$2.14 at Lacombe; and the University also allows \$2.10 for incidentals as compared with 86 cents at Lacombe. On balance the total estimates differ only to the extent of 27 cents on the total cost of bringing a pig to marketing age.

The University estimate is based on a four-sow unit, yielding three litters each in two years, with seven market pigs in each litter. Both estimates are on the basis of 450 pounds of grain for each 100 pounds of gain. The Lacombe estimate was based on a six-sow unit. Prices used were Edmonton prices. In releasing the figures, the Alberta department feels that "generous allowances have been made with respect to each and every item included" in order to "provided for adequate and efficient swine-producing units which are essential if pigs are to be a permanent and profitable part of the farm enterprise." It is further pointed out that "the producer should expect to market more than seven pigs per litter when reasonably good facilities are provided" and also that "on farms where help is

### Wintering the Brood Sow

ON many western farms brood sows are frequently brought through the winter successfully in crude but effective shelters constructed of straw and poles. After all, the chief requirements, prior to farrowing, are plenty of room, an abundance of clean, dry bedding, and freedom from drafts, together with plenty of exercise, fresh air and sunshine.

W. W. Cram, of the Dominion experimental farm, Indian Head, regards oats as the safest single grain for brood sows, and believes that, along with ground wheat, ground barley or shorts, balanced

not required . . . (labor) . . . should not be counted as an expenditure but as a 'farm labor income.'

In addition to these cost figures, the Department has gone back through the five years previous to 1943 and has calculated dressed hog prices and the car-load prices of No. 3 C.W. oats and barley for the month of November in each year, for comparison with prices ruling in November, 1943. They find that, taking 1938 as 100, hog prices have increased by 57 per cent, as compared with an increase of 241 per cent in the case of oats and 245 per cent in the case of barley, when the equalization payments of 10 cents on oats and 15 cents on barley are included. It is noted

#### Showing Cost of Producing Hogs and Net Returns per Pig in 1938-1943

	COST OF PRODUCING A 200-LB. PIG			Value Pig 75% Dressing Per Pig	Net Return Per Pig
	Overhead	Feed	Total		
1938	\$4.50	\$ 3.63	\$ 8.13	\$15.11	\$6.90
1939	5.14	4.91	10.05	15.95	5.91
1940	5.78	5.41	11.19	14.87	3.68
1941	6.42	7.68	14.10	19.92	5.82
1942	7.06	8.14	15.20	22.85	7.65
1943	7.70	12.63	20.33	23.78	3.45

that these payments can be charged as a cost only when the farmer produces the oats and barley he is feeding. Also, as shown in the accompanying table, overhead costs have increased substantially since 1938, the University estimate indicating an increase from \$4.50 for this item in 1938 to \$7.70 in 1943. The table, therefore, shows plainly the fluctuations in hog profits since 1938 and indicates that under the conditions outlined above, the combination of costs and present prices leaves a small margin of \$3.45 per pig over and above costs.

A matter of further interest, however, is that if one averages the net profit per pig for the five years previous to 1943, it will be found to be \$6.01, according to these figures. The difference between this figure and the 1943 figure of \$3.45, is \$2.56, which is the amount per pig by which present prices would have to be increased to make them as good as the 1938-42 average. Reducing this to a dressed basis, allowing a dressing percentage of 75 per cent, it would mean an increase in the dressed weight price, according to the Alberta figure, of \$1.71 per 100 pounds dressed.

by five per cent of tankage, oats should make up about half of the meal ration. Wherever skim milk or buttermilk is available, it should be fed at the rate of one to two pounds of milk to each pound of meal fed, and later varying from three to six pounds per day. The actual amount of meal required will depend on the age, size and condition of the sow, and the aim should be to bring her into good condition, though not too fat, at the time of farrowing. Bran is useful, but not essential, until within a week or ten days of farrowing; when one pound per day, at least, should be given.

Iodine is a wise precaution against goitres and hairlessness of pigs. An ounce of potassium iodide dissolved in a gallon of soft water can be kept in a closely stoppered vessel and fed at the rate of one tablespoon to each sow, two or three times a week, on her feed.

Salt and lime are advisable as minerals, the former at the rate of one-half of one per cent in the grain, and between one-half and one per cent of ground limestone. At the University of Saskatchewan, for six consecutive years, spring farrowing sows that had been lime-fed, not only proved more certain as milkers, but weaned their litters with an average of twenty-five pounds weight of pigs more than sows not receiving the lime. It may be pointed out for the benefit of inexperienced pig feeders that commercial mixtures can be obtained which combine protein and minerals and are a valuable supplement to farm grown grains. The latter are not only relatively low in protein, but do not contain protein of the quality most needed.

#### Don't Ship Overcrowded Livestock

A STANDARD stock car, 36 feet long and 8 feet wide, will accommodate approximately 22 fat cattle, weighing 1,200 pounds, or 75 ewes, weighing 150 pounds, or 105 lambs weighing 75 to 85 pounds, or 80 hogs weighing 200 pounds. Many times, serious loss is incurred in shipping stock to market because cars are badly overloaded. There is no advantage in overcrowding due to any lower freight cost, because the freight is calculated at so much per hundred pounds. There is a great temptation to overcrowd at times when cars may perhaps be difficult to obtain, or when it would be inconvenient to leave out the few head over a normal load. Nevertheless, shrinkage, some of which is inevitable, and overcrowding, are causes of serious loss every month in the year, and overcrowding is particularly dangerous in the case of hogs.

Normal shrinkage on a journey of from 24 to 36 hours from shipping point to stockyards, runs about 5 per cent in hogs, 4 to 8 per cent with lambs, and 3 to 6 per cent with well finished, grain-fed cattle. Before shipping, it is wise to give a good non-laxative feed and allow the animals to eat all they wish.

#### Watch for Cattle Lice

IT is estimated that if one pair of cattle lice are left undisturbed in a stable from the first of November until the end of February, the number at the end of the period may be twenty million.

There are a number of methods of controlling lice by means of dipping, dusting powders, and washes or drug mixtures. Dipping is not often practicable, whereas dusting powders are not considered as effective as washes or dips. One of the most effective is commercial creoline made into a two per cent solution in soft, warm water, and applied with a wool cloth or a medium stiff brush. If cold tar creosote is purchased it is ready for use with either cold or warm water. Generally speaking, applications of all solutions are more effective (because treatment is more thorough) when applied by means of a spray pump, instead of by hand.

Raw linseed oil can be used and is both effective and economical, but boiled linseed oil, or paint oils should never be used on any living animal. Raw linseed oil should be applied with a brush at the rate of four ounces per cow, repeated at intervals of not more than twenty days. There should be no hard rubbing of the skin, and after treatment the animals should not be exposed to bright sunlight for at least twelve hours in order to avoid oil burn.

There are three kinds of cattle lice, each of which can be easily controlled. One of these is a small reddish-yellow louse, and the other two are blue sucking lice, one of which has a long nose, and the other a short nose.

#### Feed for a Good Lamb Crop

ONE of the prime objectives before the sheep raiser during the winter months is a good crop of lambs in the spring. To this end the ewes should be fed liberally and carefully during the

# BACON FOR BRITAIN

## 1944

### Canada's Guarantee

**450 MILLION POUNDS**

**Canada will try to deliver**  
**600 MILLION POUNDS**

to help Britain maintain the present weekly ration of 4 oz. per person.

To meet this need every pig possible will be needed and **more sows should be bred now.**

In hog production the largest item of expense is **feed cost.**

Practical trials on a wide scale show that under farm conditions and with good management a pig can be raised to 200 lbs. (150 lb. carcass) on an equivalent of 1000 lbs. of barley or wheat. This includes the sow's feed.

After making a liberal allowance for other costs, such as interest, depreciation and labour, the net returns on grain fed to hogs under good management, should not be less than the amount shown below.

#### B-1 Hog

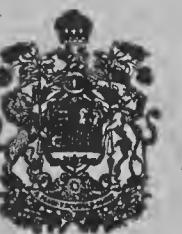
Price at Farm	Barley per Bushel	Feed Wheat per 100 lbs. per bushel	Feed Wheat per 100 lbs.
15c.	74c.	\$1.54	\$0.91
16c.	81c.	\$1.69	\$1.00
17c.	88c.	\$1.83	\$1.09
			\$1.51
			\$1.66
			\$1.81

Quality premium or bonus on hogs not included in above:

## BREED SOWS FOR BRITAIN

For further information consult your Provincial Department of Agriculture, Agricultural College, nearest Dominion Experimental Farm or Live Stock Office of the Dominion Department of Agriculture.

AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES BOARD  
Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa  
Honourable James G. Gardiner, Minister



# WE MUST HOLD THE LINE!

**On the home front the battle against inflation is now the most critical of all.**

**The winning of this battle will contribute much to winning the war.**

**It will contribute more than all else towards the solution of post-war problems.**

**The purpose of Price Control is to prevent inflation. Its purpose is to protect and maintain a basic standard of living.**

**A higher money income will not be of any advantage if, because prices are going up, our money buys less and less.**

**To win the battle against unemployment in the post-war period, we must first of all win the battle against inflation.**

**Salaries and wages are a large element, often the largest element, in the cost of everything we buy.**

**If the Price Ceiling breaks down, in the long run all stand to lose.**

**We must hold the line against inflation to assure victory in war.**

**We must hold the line to provide a solid foundation on which, after the war, to build a greater and a better Canada.**

*Mackenzie King.*

PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA

Ottawa, December 13, 1943

winter so that they will increase in weight, rather than merely hold their own. When first changed over to indoor feeding in the late fall, the amount of roughage and concentrates will be quite small, but these amounts should be increased gradually until from two to three pounds of roughage per head per day is being fed, and up to one-and-one-half pounds of concentrates.

Good quality legume hay, a little good corn silage wherever it is available, or pea or bean hay are all good for sheep. Sour or frozen silage should not be fed.

Exercise during the winter is important. Frequently this is provided by feeding the roughage outside on clean snow some distance from the shelter. If the ewes are to produce strong, virile lambs, they must not be pampered and winter conditions should approximate as closely as practicable the habit of the flock under outdoor conditions.

Good feeding during the winter is also important from the standpoint of wool quality. Underfed sheep cannot produce wool of good quality, and the value of the wool is decreased by at least two cents per pound because of its short, weak fibre. Furthermore, self interest on the part of the grower demands that feeding during the winter months should be so managed as to prevent dirty wool filled with chaff and other foreign material. A rack, so designed that small bits of feed material may not lodge in the wool, should be used. A good deal can be done, by not passing or reaching feed over the back of the sheep. Litter from a loft should not be allowed to fall down in a pen where the sheep are. Also, it is not conducive to clean wool to permit sheep to feed from the side of the hay or straw rack or stack.

#### Feeding for Milk in Winter

**R**OUGHAGE is the cheapest form of feed for dairy cattle. Calculated on the basis of milk production, one hundred pounds of digestible feed in hay can be produced for from one-half to two-thirds the cost of producing the same nutrients in the form of grains. This fact, along with the ability of the dairy cow to utilize large quantities of roughage owing to the arrangement of her digestive system, makes roughage the basis of all dairy cattle rations.

At the same time, cows producing milk can not be expected to produce profitably on roughage alone. It is particularly necessary to balance the deficiency, generally of protein, in roughage feeds, by grain and other concentrates. Nowadays, with high protein concentrates remarkably scarce, more care than ever is required to properly plan rations.

The first rule, however, is to feed plenty of good hay, and if possible, each milk cow should have 2½ tons of good quality legume hay as a winter supply. Less, of course, will be required for younger stock. Such hay can be fairly well balanced with a grain ration containing 13 per cent of protein. If a good mixed hay is used, 15 per cent of protein will be required, whereas, if the roughage is entirely without legumes the grain and concentrate ration should contain 18 per cent of protein.

Careless feeders of dairy cattle often make the mistake of feeding the same amount of grain or concentrate to each cow, regardless of the amount of milk produced. Generally speaking, cows producing high fat-content milk require more grain mixture for the same quantity of milk than breeds such as the Holstein, which produce, as a rule, milk containing lower butterfat content. Authorities of the University of Alberta, and the Alberta Department of Agriculture, recommend feeding one pound of grain mixture for each 2½ pounds of milk produced over fifteen pounds, while for Jerseys and Guernseys, whose milk may test 5 per cent or over, the amount of grain recommended is one pound of grain mixture for each two pounds of milk in excess of 10 pounds.

Incidentally, the dairy cow is the best supporter of diversified farming. Her reliance for best performance on large quantities of roughage, including silage and root crops, where it is practical to grow them, places a strong emphasis on hay and pasture crops. These crops, in turn, are essential for measures of soil conservation, and the maintenance of soil fertility.

# FIELD



*These sentinels of the prairies are the world's assurance of food for starving peoples in war-ravaged countries.*

## Manitoba Reviews Weed Control Program

**I**N the last three years the Manitoba Department of Agriculture, in co-operation with Manitoba municipalities, has been carrying on a war against persistent perennials such as leafy spurge and other deep-rooted weeds. This work has been organized into 15 weed control units comprising 70 municipalities, and in the last three years, 20,000 patches of weeds discovered on 1,400 farms have been treated. The 20,000 patches, if combined, would have made an area of 850 acres, and the cost, which involved the use of 276 tons of chemicals, was \$63,000 to the municipalities, and the total, with the government's share added, made \$75,000, or an average of slightly more than \$50 per farm.

H. E. Wood, Weeds Commissioner for Manitoba, speaking at a special meeting on weed control, called by the Hon. D. L. Campbell, Minister of agriculture, at the time of the convention of the Union of Manitoba Municipalities, and at which over fifty rural municipalities were present, said that the weed control program had resulted in the locating of more extensive and more numerous infestations than had ever been anticipated.

Notwithstanding the success so far achieved, Mr. Wood felt that, regarding extensive infestations, major problems were still to be solved. These involved infestations of good land where intensive cultivation was required, and would likely involve 8,000 to 10,000 acres on

perhaps 200 farms. Another 10,000 acres, mostly on light soil, would probably require mowing to prevent seed spreading, followed by seeding to some grass such as Crested wheat grass, and pasturing with sheep, since the value of these lands would not justify control by cultivation. A disadvantage of control by cultivation lay in the probability of soil erosion developing if these light soils are worked.

The cost of control by spraying, according to Mr. Wood, runs to about \$100 per acre, if complete control is effected. Consequently, about one-half acre in one plot was felt to be the extreme limit for control by spraying. Unfortunately, extensive infestations generally grow on what Mr. Wood called "problem" farms, operated by problem farmers who could never reduce the infestation alone. Therefore, the solution would seem to lie through joint action by the municipality and the government, who could take action under Section 10A, of the Noxious Weeds Act.

The Minister, at the concluding session, suggested that it would be profitable to reclaim good land that had fallen victim to weeds, and he felt that after the war there should be a plan to take over infested fields so as to bring good land back into cultivation, or to develop poor lands for pasture purposes. He promised close co-operation with municipalities on the part of the government, both during and after the war.

## Machinery Costs Must Be Kept Low

**O**NE result of the war which will be of undoubtedly benefit in the management of small farms not economically suited for the maintenance of a full line of power implements and equipment, will be an increase in the co-operative ownership and operation of implements.

In an area where grain crops are grown so universally and on such a scale as in prairie Canada, the amount which the interest, depreciation and cost of operation of farm implements and other equipment in the line of machinery, contributes to the total cost of production, is very substantial. The need for reducing the cost of production of our grain crops, a considerable quantity of which must necessarily be exported, will be greater than ever after the war. There is reason to hope that markets for Canadian grain will develop on a higher scale, and that Canadian grain will find an easier entry into world markets than was the case after policies of rigid control over imports were adopted in Europe during the '20's. Nevertheless, countries which must import grain will want to buy it where they can buy it cheapest, quality considered; and Canadian farmers can, if they will, meet the competition of the world.

Today, this, however, means a very careful consideration of all cost elements. The production of agricultural products per man has been raised to a very high level on western Canadian farms during wartime, in spite of severe restrictions in the availability of new machinery. The war has also demonstrated, as never before, the labor-saving value of machinery, so the problem before the grain farmer, or the mixed farmer growing a substantial proportion of grain crops, is to balance

the advantages of power equipment, with the economy of their use.

There is no doubt that western Canada has been prodigal and wasteful in machinery use and purchase. Some of this prodigality is more apparent than real, it is true, because new and better machines have very properly crowded the older ones into disuse. Nevertheless, when the cost of producing western wheat and other grains is to be lowered in keeping with competitive conditions which will undoubtedly develop sooner or later after the war, farmers must keep a vigilant eye on the efficiency of each machine purchased. Machinery co-operatives now show signs of developing, one or more having already been organized in Saskatchewan. Perhaps some time will be required before local co-operatives for the joint use and operation of implements can work out satisfactory methods or technique, and before they can determine just what implements lend themselves to joint use, and which ones should be owned individually. These methods, however, can be developed for each district, or area. In other cases, communities will content themselves with an increase in custom hiring and joint use by this or other methods, rather than joint ownership.

The point is that machinery costs are necessarily high in a machinery age, in relation to total cost and total farm income. They must be kept to a minimum with a view to efficiency in production. The sooner, however, prairie farmers learn the lesson of co-operation in this, as well as other fields of farm operation, the more likely it will be that Canadian farm income can be kept at a reasonably high level after the war.



## He Will Make it Run Again

### But Remember—He is Short Handed

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For all Case implements and machines, including Emerson, E-B, Grand Detour and Rock Island, he can furnish genuine factory parts for correct fit and first class performance. For others . . . such as makes not sold in your locality, or even "orphans" . . . he may be able to find serviceable repair parts.

Either in his own repair department or in cooperation with specialty shops he can get broken wheels welded, malleable iron castings brazed, worn parts built up, over or under-size bushings made, and many kinds of machine-shop work done. He can save time and money for you, steel and other precious materials for war needs. All his experience and ingenuity are dedicated to helping you as you do your part in the battle of food.

All he asks is that you give him

a chance. His skilled help . . . like yours . . . is limited. He must make every minute count. He will do his best to take care of you in rush-season emergencies, but overhaul jobs and other routine repair work must be done ahead of time. Renewal parts should be ordered weeks or months early, if possible.

#### Farmers Don't Hoard

Not how many repair parts they can get, but rather how few they can get along with, has always been the policy of farmers. Because every part a farmer buys is really needed, this company . . . and other farm machinery builders, too . . . will make every effort to provide plenty of renewal parts. But materials are difficult to secure, due to war limitations, and can be spared only for parts which are known to be needed. By arranging early for repairs you will help yourself, your dealer, and your country.

"Shortcuts in the Fight for Food" gives pointers on putting farm machines into shape and ways to get things done with limited manpower. Send today for your free copy.

# CASE



**IN THE WAR** this company's first duty and greatest contribution is to build all the farm machines allowed under war restrictions, and to provide renewal parts for old machines. In addition every Case plant produces war materiel such as shells, gun mounts, pontoons, bombs, and complete wings for bombers. Besides your first duty of growing every possible pound of food you can speed the war and hasten the peace by putting every possible dollar into war bonds, and by turning in every possible pound of scrap.

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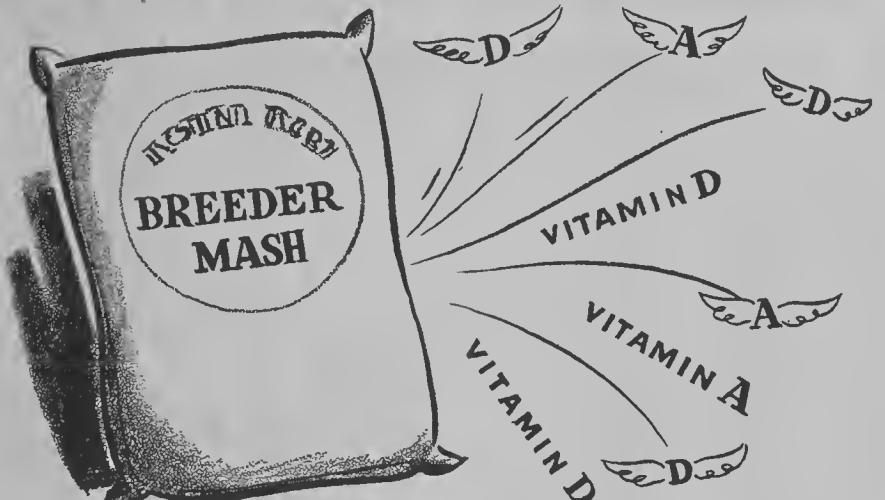
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### Plan To Save Available Moisture

PRairie farmers will need to exercise their very best judgment this spring and summer unless moisture conditions in early spring are much more favorable than it now seems likely they will be. Reserve moisture supply in the soil of the prairies is very low, and in some parts of the wheat area, especially in the area that was dry in 1943, only about half as much moisture is present in the top six feet of soil as was available from the fall of 1942. Not many fallows in this area are in fact wetted down to a depth of three feet, whereas ample moisture to a depth of six feet is necessary if a full crop is to be confidently expected. The consequence of this will be that, unless ample rains occur by the early part of June, the effects on fallow fields will be serious.

The moisture situation, however, indicates the advisability not only of holding as much land in fallow as possible, but of beginning fallow cultivation as early in the spring as the land can be worked, in order to prevent weed growth. Good summerfallow prove their value in a dry season which follows another dry season.

### Clean Grain for Seed Early

EVERY successful farmer realizes that the best time to clean seed for spring sowing is during the winter months. In the first place, there is more time on nearly all farms before the winter is too far advanced, and the consequence of timely seed cleaning are that a better job is usually made of it.

This year there is a shortage of good seed grown in eastern Canada, and the man who has his seed grain cleaned, sacked, and weighed, will be in a much more satisfactory position to take advantage of any market that develops. It stands to reason that seed prepared for sowing, should be stored in a mouse-proof room or granary. According to seed authorities, a satisfactory job can be done at home with a farm fanning mill, notwithstanding that a large power unit, if one is conveniently available, can do a better job. Much labor and handling is, of course, saved if seed can be elevated after cleaning to an overhead bin, so that it can be dropped by gravity for a second and third cleaning.

It is important in arranging a combination of sieves, that the top, or scalping sieve, should be barely large enough to let the grain through, in order that all the larger material can be separated at once. Different kinds of grain, and even different seasons, will more or less regulate the size of the grading screen necessary to do a good job. Persons who are not confident of their own ability to arrange the screens without assistance, or a considerable amount of time spent in experimenting at home, would do well to consult their nearest experimental station. The authorities there will be familiar with the type of grain resulting from the 1943 crop in the district and will in most cases probably save the enquirer a considerable amount of time, which is more than ever valuable in these days.

Farmers who have oats and barley suitable for seed and have these grains in quantities which will enable them to ship carloads, may obtain special permits from the Canadian Wheat Board to enable them to ship these carloads for the purpose of having it cleaned to seed grade. Once a delivery permit is received, and the grain is ready for shipment, application must be made to the Traffic Department of the Canadian Wheat Board for a car in which to move the grain. This arrangement makes it possible to move grain for seed or to have large quantities of grain cleaned for seed in those areas where oats in particular were frosted, and frost-free seed must be moved around.

### Potash Now Rationed

THE Fertilizer Administrator at Ottawa, G. S. Peart, has given notice that the supply of potash available for fertilizer in 1944 will be only about 80 per cent of the quantity used in 1943. On the other hand, the demand for fertilizer containing potash is expected to increase. This has necessitated rationing of this fertilizer element.

Fertilizer manufacturers have been notified to supply all of their distrib-

utors with fertilizer containing no more than 73 per cent of the amount of potash supplied to them in 1943. This rationing of potash will not affect the total tonnage of fertilizers available. Mr. Peart states that most mixed fertilizers have been reduced by two per cent of their potash content, which will still leave sufficient potash to give satisfactory results in nearly all cases.

### Seeding Forage Crops

CRESTED wheat grass, brome, alfalfa and sweet clover are the forage crops most extensively used in southwestern Manitoba and central and southern Saskatchewan and Alberta. For their success it is important that a good stand be obtained, and this is often difficult owing to the fact that forage crop seeds are small and must, therefore, be shallowly seeded. This shallow seeding, in turn, means that under prairie conditions, where the top soil is mostly dry, seeding methods for such crops as the above must be devised to take advantage of any season of the year when surface moisture is likely to be present to assist germination.

At the Dominion experimental station, Scott, Sask., a project has been under way for eight years in which seedings of these crops are made, not only on both summerfallow and stubble, and with and without a nurse crop, but in early mid-season and late fall and spring. Also, seedings are made on soil that is loose, and on soil that is packed before or after seeding.

Eight years of work indicated that for the soil and climatic conditions of the Scott area, the best stands resulted from seeding directly into stubble without any previous cultivation. Early October and late spring seedings have been unsatisfactory for Crested wheat grass and brome, which did best after early or late fall, or early spring seeding. Sweet clover is best if seeded early in the spring, and in every case the best results are secured when harrowing and packing is done before the grasses are seeded. The reason for this seems to be that a firm seed bed is provided and too deep seeding is prevented.

The best stands for all grasses were secured from seeding either directly into the stubble, or on plowed stubble well packed. For alfalfa, late fall or early spring seeding has given best results.

### Respiration of Stored Grain

ALL living plants or animals respire—in the case of human beings we call it breathing. When the breathing of plant organisms goes on in the presence of air, the process is somewhat similar to combustion in which oxygen is involved, since, in the process of respiration of plants, oxygen is combined with the plant food materials so that, in the process, heat is given off and carbon dioxide and water result. Thus the heating of grain in storage is the result of the respiratory process.

Because stored grain is, as a rule, living material (it will germinate and grow), this respiration, producing both heat and moisture, is not only a characteristic of the stored grain, but the same process also goes on with bacteria, moulds, etc., which may be associated with the grain in storage. Incidentally, it is interesting to note that stored grain is a good insulating material because it is a relatively poor conductor of heat. Grain that has a moisture content of from 12.5 to 14.5 per cent of moisture, is about equal to ordinary sawdust as an insulation material.

Dr. W. F. Geddes, University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota, points out that when respiration occurs fast enough to produce heat more quickly than it can be got rid of, the temperature of the grain rises and heat damage may result. The more moisture there is in the stored grain, the more rapidly carbon dioxide is produced and consequently the more likely grain is to heat and become damaged. Other factors, such as the presence of cracked, shrivelled and immature kernels lead to an increase of respiration and therefore an increase in damage resulting from heating; likewise foreign material or sprouted, frosted or grain that has already been damaged by heat. The insects common to stored grain do not, as a rule breed actively at temperatures below 70 degrees Fahr., or in grain containing 9 per cent or less of moisture.

# ONE MORE UNTO THE BREACH

Continued from page 8

increased consumption, that no particular attempt has been made to justify it.

THIS year, more than ever before, Canadian Agriculture is faced with a serious problem relating to the distri-



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bution of available feeds and feedstuffs. eastern Canada experienced one of the most disastrous years in eastern Canadian history. The Minister of Agriculture for New Brunswick, Hon. A. C. Taylor, pointed out that in his province thousands of tons of hay were never cut, thousands of bushels of grain were lost, only 25 per cent of the fall plowing had been completed by the first week in December, and a portion of the large potato crop of the Province was never harvested. Conditions in other eastern provinces were similarly affected, as a result of which a great deal of assistance in one way or another has had to be provided by the Dominion Government, through the Agricultural Supplies Board, to facilitate the movement of grain from western Canada, and the distribution of feed materials. In addition, there is a great demand for millfeeds, in spite of the fact that the 1942-43 production was 216,000 tons in excess of the five-year average, 1936-40; and in spite of the fact, also, that export of millfeeds has been reduced from about 50 per cent to 5 per cent of total production. High protein feeds such as oil cake (linseed meal, cottonseed meal, etc.) are not only scarce in Canada, but they are even scarcer in the United States; and while Canada, through the Combined Food Board at Washington, is receiving a fair share of all supplies that can be imported, these fall far short of the demand.

As a result of the various steps taken by the federal government in co-operation with the provinces, the gross acreage increase in coarse grains and flaxseed produced in western Canada, have reached a combined total of 19,800 thousand acres for the three years, and bonuses amounting to nearly 42 million dollars have been paid to farmers. Fertilizer assistance amounting to \$1,725-676 has been provided on 400,000 tons of fertilizer. Freight assistance from October, 1941, to October, 1943, amounted to \$21,500,000; and by this means the six provinces received western prairie grain during 1941-42, amounting to 46 per cent of their production, and in 1942-43, to 53 per cent. In these various ways, therefore, as pointed out by A. M. Shaw, chairman of the Agriculture Supplies Board, and Chairman of the Conference, a total of nearly 67 million dollars has been provided by means of bonus, subsidy, and subvention payments, from 1940, to October, 1943.

Supplies of feed grain in Canada for the year 1943-44 are estimated to be at least 50 per cent higher than for the year 1941-42, and only slightly less than for the year 1942-43, notwithstanding that there will be 1,500,000 more grain-consuming animal units in Canada, and about 700,000 tons less feed grain.

Mr. Gardiner rightly characterized hogs as the most contentious subject the Conference had to deal with. In finally setting the objective for 1944 at 600 million pounds for Britain, all the known factors were taken into account, not the least of which was the feeling that in view of the changes in the price relationship between hogs and grain, some more appreciable increase in price was widely held to be advisable, if not essential. The Minister believed that a contract could be negotiated covering for three or four years, instead of two, and that these would provide much needed stability to hog production. He urged, and most of those present at the conference agreed, that many hog producers throughout the country would

find production profitable at present prices, and that oats, barley and wheat, marketed through hogs, would return, for these men, from 10 to 15 cents per bushel more than the market. In view of the need in Britain for all of the pork products we can send her, there seemed no alternative, but to set the objective at the 1941-42 level of 600 million pounds, and put it up squarely to the Canadian farmer to do the best he can to meet it.

THE wheat acreage objective involved a considerable amount of discussion, but most of those present realized early in the discussion the advisability of leaving it at the low level of 1942-43, namely, 17,500,000 acres. Determining factors were: that moisture supply in western Canada is at a low level; that the carryover of 602 million bushels is sufficient to meet any demands that may come within the next two years, and that the higher wheat acreage may be more beneficial in the over-all feed picture if seeded in 1945, than in 1944. Also, the demand for coarse grains, in order to maintain production of meat and meat products, dairy products and poultry, is urgent at the present time, and there is a real need for increase in the acreage of oats and barley, and of flaxseed; the latter for industrial as well as feed purposes. An increase of 6 per cent in the over-all Canadian oat acreage is the objective for this year, and 1 per cent in the case of barley. Such crops as corn, for husking, and mixed grains which are more or less localized, also called for increases, but mostly in eastern Canada.

Although the Conference decided to ask for increases of 146 per cent in the case of rape seed, 72 per cent of sunflower seed, 9 per cent of soybeans, 10 per cent of dried beans, and 15 per cent of dried peas, these figures were arrived at more on the basis of possibility than of need, because the need for all of them is very great. The same applies to butter, which promises a slight decrease, even under the most optimistic estimates, and to cheese as well. All of these products are in strong demand and it is safe to say that the utmost the Canadian farmer can do will not be too much. Similarly, a further 10 per cent increase in egg production, and 11 per cent in poultry, is asked for.

It may well be that the year 1944 will prove to be the climax of the Canadian farmer's war production effort, just as it may prove the climax of the efforts of the United Nations on the battlefronts of the world. Since the first year of the war the urgency that has developed for ships, guns, tanks, men and food, has gradually shifted to emphasis on food. Beginning with Pearl Harbor, the United States initiated a tremendous program of food production which tended to overreach possibilities. Co-operation between the United Nations is gradually perfecting the allocation of effort in all types of war production, to those groups or peoples best able to achieve the necessary result. Once more, then, Canadian farmers are called on for a further tremendous effort. In 1944, as in other years of the war, general emphasis must be placed on hog production and on the production of dairy and poultry products. As to the result which will flow from the setting of the 1944 agricultural objectives "only the event can tell us in its hour."

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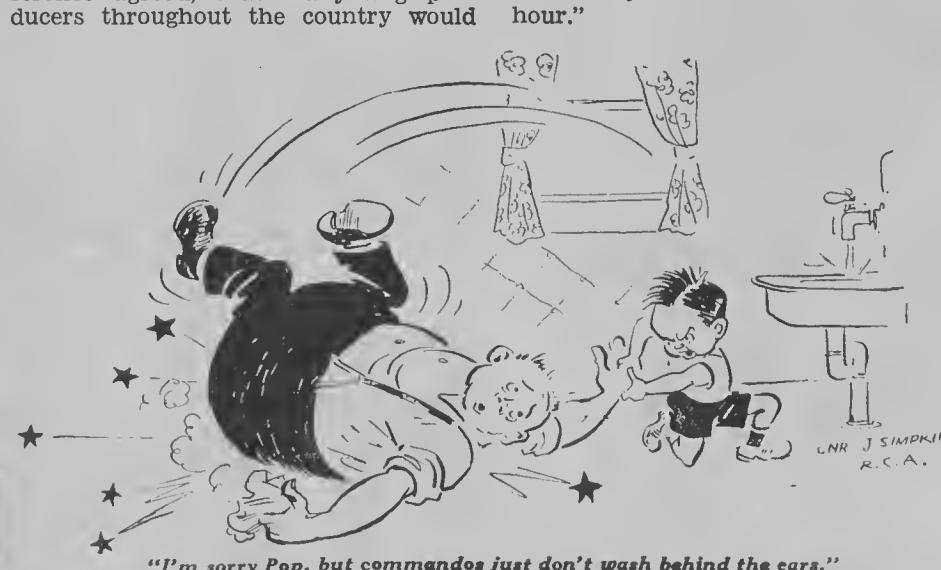
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### Examine Vegetables in Storage

IT would be a good plan for those who have vegetables stored from the farm garden for winter use, to examine the potatoes, carrots and other vegetables in the root house or cellar for traces of soft rot. One form of this soft rot may be evidenced in potatoes that were affected with late blight in summer. There are various forms of these rots, but they are all definitely sources of further infections if the individual tubers or vegetables carrying them are allowed to remain in contact with sound specimens.

Potatoes intended for seed should now be stored at from 38 to 40 degrees Fahr., and if the tubers are sound and free from disease, they will keep under these conditions for several months without spoiling from rots or mildew. Potatoes which have been stored at low temperatures will sweat when the temperature is raised, and this means that careful ventilation must be given. Fairly high humidity in the atmosphere of the storage room is desirable, and this is the principal reason why dirt floors are preferable. As long as plenty of moisture is kept in the air some changes in the actual day to day humidity do not appear to be harmful. Ventilation is important because the amount of moisture which tubers give off in storage depends upon their temperature. The activity in the potato organism increases as the temperature increases, and oxygen requirements are therefore greater. Ventilation not only supplies air, but with it the necessary oxygen and it also regulates the temperature and humidity.

### Our Fruit Survey Questionnaire

THERE were sent out in November from the office of The Country Guide, about six thousand letters and questionnaires to all persons on the prairie provinces of whom we had any record as having been growers of fruit, whether tree fruits or small fruits. Our hope is to supplement the returns from a similar questionnaire sent out last February, and to accumulate the personal experiences of as many hundreds of growers as possible, with a view to tabulating, examining, and eventually interpreting these basic horticultural data.

As mentioned on this page previously, we feel that we have the co-operation of the horticultural authorities at our prairie institutions, to whom the information secured will be made available, and who will be materially assisted in their efforts to recommend suitable fruit varieties for all parts of the prairie provinces.

We appreciate the time and interest offered by the hundreds who have replied, and urge all those who have not yet done so, to fill out and return this questionnaire to us no matter how few the number of trees or kinds of fruit they may have. We would especially request that each variety of fruit be given a separate column in the questionnaire, and be reported on as fully and completely as possible.

### Rotate Garden Crops

A NOTE from the New York state college of agriculture calls attention to the desirability of a rotation of crops in the garden. By this is not meant merely dividing the garden into two parts, with each half devoted to growing crops one year and summer-fallow the next. Not nearly enough farm gardens are given the advantage of this wise practice in western Canada; but what is meant in this case is the planting of the garden crops in such a way as to avoid planting certain crops immediately adjacent to other crops which may spread disease to them.

It is pointed out, for example, that to avoid the spread of virus and fungus diseases, beans should not be planted next to peas and clover and the cucumbers should be separated from the melons and squash. It is also advised that lima beans planted next to lilac bushes are apt to be attacked by mildew, while there is danger from other diseases if cucumbers and melons are grown next to soybeans or petunias. In some areas, nematodes cause damage to root crops and, in such cases, carrots and celery should not be planted the following year on soil infected the previous year.



*Flowers in the garden not only add beauty and color but attract birds and butterflies as well.*

## New Potato Varieties Needed

By S. W. EDGEcombe  
Associate Professor of Horticulture, University of Manitoba

"WHAT is wrong with my potatoes?" asks the potato grower. "Why can't I buy better potatoes at the store?" complains the housewife. A full discussion of both questions would require much more space than can be used in this article, but a few of the reasons may be sketched.

Potato varieties that are grown on the prairies are ones that were developed elsewhere in North America to meet the growing conditions of those regions. They were not developed for prairie conditions and as a result they are not suited for western Canada. Even the newer varieties developed to meet special conditions in Ohio, New York or Nebraska are unlikely to be adapted to western Canada, simply because they were selected specially for other conditions.

Everyone on the prairies knows how wheat growing has expanded due to the introduction of new varieties developed in western Canada. This adaptation consists of early maturity, quality, and resistance to several kinds of diseases. Similarly, western Canada needs one, two or more new potato varieties which will have early maturity, good cooking quality, fine appearance, shallow eyes, resistance to prevalent diseases, cold and drought resistance and high-yielding ability.

Potatoes possess the questionable honor of having a large number of serious diseases. These are of many types and have entirely different life histories. Some of them are caused by bacteria, others by fungi and viruses and still others by organisms intermediate in type between these classes of organisms. Some live in the soil, others are carried on the tuber surface, while others overwinter within the tuber. In one case (Bacterial Ring Rot) the disease organism may overwinter in the storage cellar on sacks, clothing or even on the baskets and storage walls.

A potato grower may follow a control program successfully for one disease and unconsciously spread another type of disease that has a different life history. An excellent example is Late Blight (*Phytophthora infestans*) and the virus diseases. Late Blight may be controlled by spraying with bordeaux every seven to ten days during the growing season. Virus diseases cannot be controlled by spraying since the diseases are within the plant. Virus diseases are transferred from infected to healthy plants by insects which are controlled by sprays other than bordeaux. Once a virus disease gains entrance into a potato tuber, the tuber must be discarded since no way has been learned to kill the virus without destruction of the tuber.

Therefore, virus disease control must be secured by the elimination of infected tubers. The Dominion Seed Potato Certification Service with regional offices at Edmonton and Winnipeg is engaged in the supervision of the production of seed potatoes as nearly free from virus diseases and other special diseases as is humanly possible. The method followed by the growers is to select apparently disease-free tubers,

true to type for the variety, cut the tubers into four pieces, plant in units of four in the field, and carefully inspect the units several times during the growing season. If any virus disease symptoms are noted in the foliage or stems then the entire unit is destroyed.

The reader can see that certified seed potatoes are developed primarily so that they are almost one hundred per cent free from virus diseases. More certified seed could well be planted in the future with resulting larger yields of high quality tubers.

A survey conducted in Manitoba in 1943 of the potatoes being planted by growers revealed that only 47 per cent of the samples were free from virus diseases. This is staggering because the poor samples that were planted were unable to produce maximum yields of high quality potatoes.

### Manitoba Potato Breeding Program

Fortunately, various agencies in the United States have been working for years on similar problems and have built up stocks of breeding material. These stocks carry resistance to certain virus diseases, late blight, ring rot, potato scab, drought and cold resistance, desirable shape, shallow eyes, good cooking and high-yielding ability. The Manitoba Department of Agriculture is financing potato breeding in co-operation with the University of Manitoba. The first step has been to secure small lots of this promising material from Iowa, North Dakota, New York and the United States Department of Agriculture. Then these lots have been grown at the University Farm.

The recognized method in the production of a new asexually propagated plant variety is to combine varieties in various ways that possess the desirable characters until a seedling is secured which possesses the characters to such a degree that it is superior to any recognized variety in one or more characters.

Naturally, not every cross will be productive but the potato breeder must select the best possible combinations, make the crosses, grow the seedlings and select the most promising of these.

If they are not up to the ideal then they must be recombined or other combinations must be made.

This procedure is an expensive one and is further complicated in that the potato is characterized by a high degree of pollen sterility. That is, the average potato variety seldom sets seeds. It is uncommon to find one seed ball in a hundred acre field of Irish Cobblers. Fortunately, some of the newer varieties and unnamed seedlings produce seed balls with ease.

Crossing has been started at the university both in the field and in the greenhouse. More success has been secured in the greenhouse because low temperatures and high humidities can be maintained. The two thousand seedlings grown so far have varied greatly in many characters. A few promising ones have been selected for further trial. They must be tested carefully. If they show any particular weakness they must not be released.

Only a start has been made so far but this is the only way to secure varieties suitable for the prairies. Progress has been made elsewhere where they have produced varieties that are superior to the old varieties for their regions. In Manitoba the governmental authorities realize that only through such a constructive breeding program can the two questions asked at the beginning of this article be fully answered.

### Questions

Q. (Mrs. J. T. Barons, Alta.): What flowers or plants would be best suited to a location facing north? It receives very little sunshine, and it holds moisture well.

A. Many of the shade-tolerant plants like moist conditions, hence should thrive with you. Among such are ferns, columbine, pansies, Roundleaf saxifrage, Tiger lily, herbaceous spireas, aconitum, hemerocallis, Henry lily, bergamot, forget-me-not and violas.

\* \* \*

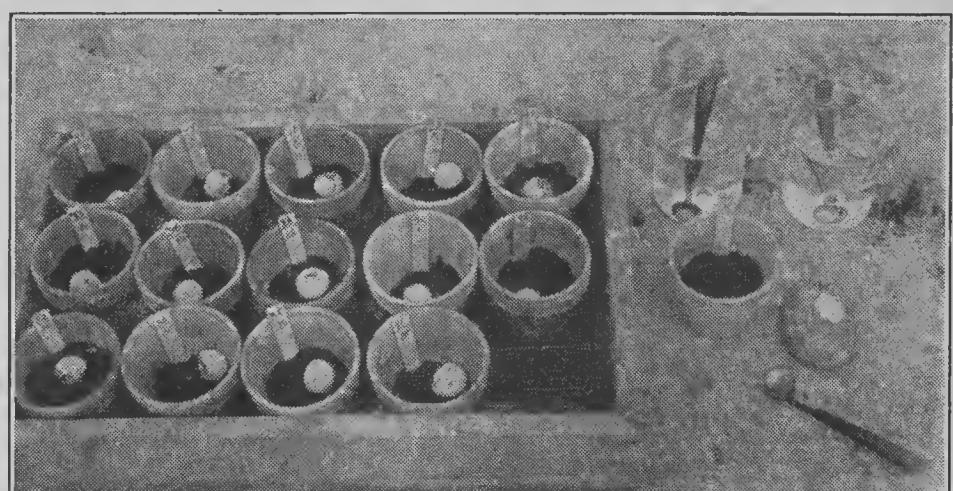
Q. (Mrs. M. L. B., Belleau Brook, Sask.): I have crab, plum and cherry trees planted in 1939. They are now quite large but some have been badly cut by rabbits. They are still in their original row planted as grafted trees. Could I move these this spring as soon as the frost is out of the ground without cutting them back? If not, how should it be done?

A. Transplant as early in spring as soil conditions permit. It will be necessary to cut back the tops more or less heavily. The aim is to restrict top of tree to balance the roots remaining. The roots will require some weeks after transplanting to develop new rootlets that will make a new plant pipe-line contact with the moisture that clings to soil particles. The less extensive the top, the sooner will new top growth commence thrifly. If rabbits have girdled completely the trunks, cut to below the girdle. Make the cutting somewhat on the slant for drainage.

\* \* \*

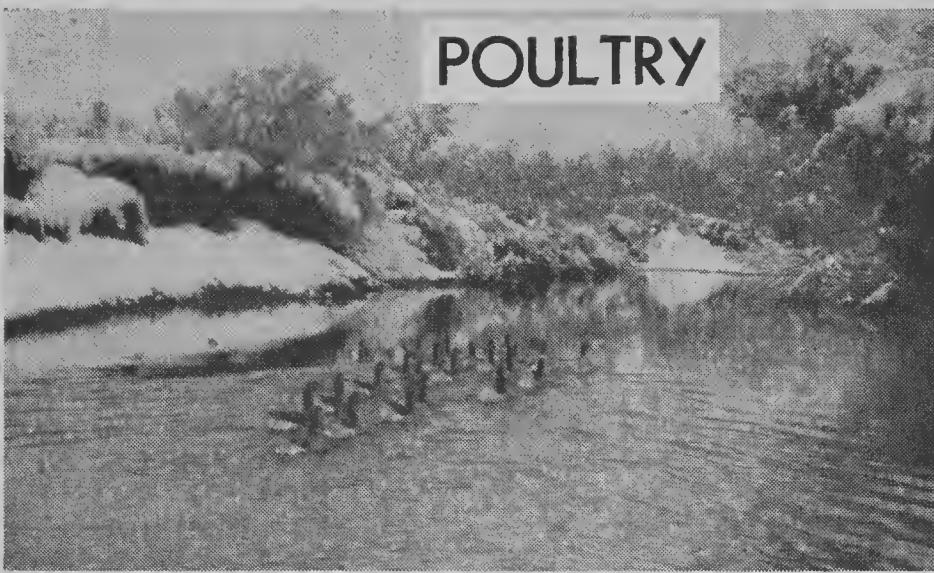
Q. (Mrs. T. A., Manitou, Man.): Is it practical to grow Trailing arbutus in my garden?

A. Trailing arbutus is native to southeastern Manitoba. The native strain is fully hardy. However, there is little chance of it thriving in your garden, where the soil is high in lime content. Like blueberries and mountain laurel, this ornamental plant demands soil that is rather intensely acid.



*Potato eyes cut for pot planting in the greenhouse at the University of Manitoba where a program of potato breeding is under way as described in the above article by Dr. S. W. Edgecombe.*

# POULTRY



*These intrepid travellers have urgent business somewhere, probably in the feed yard, and are wasting no time along the way.*

## All-Time High Poultry Population

**A**BOUT 37,500,000 dozen eggs were shipped to Great Britain during 1943, an amount which was far short of the objective of 62 million dozens set at the close of 1942. The tremendous increase in the consumption of eggs in Canada during the past year, a condition that could not be accurately predicted in December, 1942, when the contracts were made, was the main reason for our failure to reach the objective. In most cases poultry keepers have increased the size of their flocks to the full capacity of the available accommodation. In spite of acute labor shortages, the farm poultry flock is probably now receiving better care and better feeds than in the pre-war years, and it is safe to assume that egg production per bird has increased.

Figures published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics indicate that Canada's poultry population continued to show a marked upward trend in 1943. On June 1 of last year the numbers of hens and chickens on farms totalled almost 75 millions as compared with slightly more than 68 millions on the same date in 1942, or an increase of over 10 per cent. While the poultry population showed an increase in all provinces, the provinces of British Columbia, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Saskatchewan showed the greatest increases. The poultry population in the Dominion has now reached an all-time high.

As this is written, no information is yet available on the 1944 contract with Great Britain for egg powder. W. A. Brown, Chief of the Poultry Marketing and Production Services, speaking at a meeting held in Calgary in October, indicated the probability that the new contract would be on a somewhat higher price level, in view of increased production costs, particularly feed grains. He also stated that Britain had recently agreed to purchase shell eggs from the Argentine; that the United States had been negotiating for the shipment of shell eggs; and that Canada may supply a part of her new contract in this form, and part in the form of egg powder. It was Mr. Brown's opinion that poultry producers in Canada had responded magnificently to the requests made for increased production of both eggs and poultry meat. The industry has developed rapidly since the outbreak of war and now occupies a position of importance in Canadian agriculture.

The supplying of egg powder to Great Britain in place of shell eggs is proving an efficient means of shipping a nutritious food product in limited space during wartime. It is doubtful, however, if egg powder will replace shell eggs in the human diet to any appreciable extent, except for baking purposes after the war is over. Canadian eggs in both shell and powder form have been well received by British users. Maintaining a high quality of these products will be necessary in meeting the postwar competition that will most likely develop. Improved marketing facilities, particularly the establishing of a large number of grading stations, has permitted eggs to be handled with a reduced loss in grade.

## Feathers Needed

**A**NEW ruling of the Wartime Prices Board requires poultry producers to

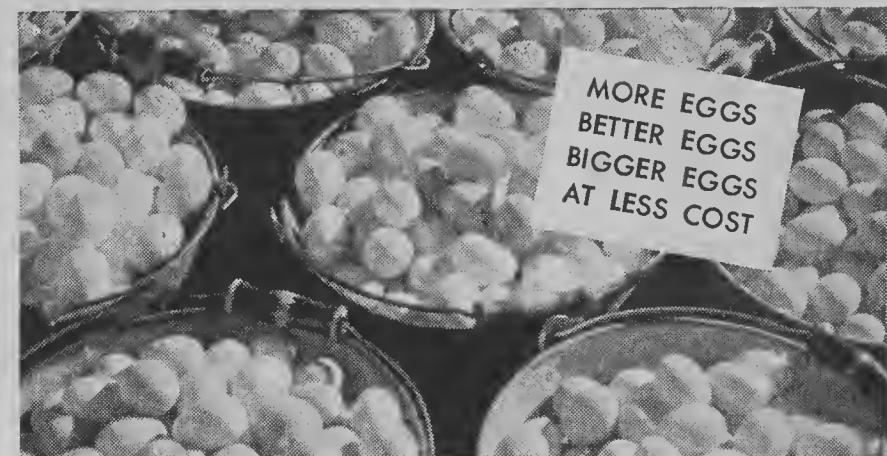
preserve all feathers and down from chicken, turkeys, geese, and ducks, above 25 pounds. The supplies of feathers and down for the manufacture of sleeping bags, pillows, etc., for the armed forces are such that it is necessary to save all possible supplies from Canadian sources. Poultry producers and others are prohibited from destroying any supplies of such feathers and down over and above 25 pounds.

## Dull Weather—More Colds

**T**HE weather during the fall and early winter of 1943 was exceptionally mild in western Canada. While temperatures were unusually high, conditions were not altogether favorable for egg production. There was less sunshine than in most seasons and as a consequence the poultry house was dull and in some cases damp. Colds and other respiratory diseases were as prevalent, or more so, than when the weather is clear and cold. Fresh air and frequent changing of the straw litter on the floor to prevent dampness are important aids in keeping laying stock healthy. During mild weather increased precautions must also be taken to keep the house clean. Droppings should be removed at frequent intervals. If droppings boards are used, the droppings should be removed daily. There is little, if any, saving in labor in allowing them to accumulate and there is a disadvantage from the standpoint of disease.

The first symptoms of colds are evidenced by signs of general discomfort and irritation, causing the birds to shake their heads and claw at their beaks. Watering at the nostrils and the eyes is a further symptom. Birds that are not heavily infected will continue to eat and move about in a normal way. Those heavily infected are less active and remain apart from the remainder of the flock and show very little interest in food. The first step in curing colds in poultry should be a careful check of the house to determine the probable cause of the outbreak. Dampness, draughts, inadequate ventilation, and over-crowding are all common causes. Affected birds should receive a mild physic of one-half to one pound of Epsom salts per 100 birds, the amount given depending upon whether the birds have been accustomed to physics. Salts can best be given to birds in a wet mash, dissolving first in warm water and adding the solution to meals until a suitable consistency is reached. Since numerous birds obtain their drink from one container, the drinking vessel is one means of spreading colds from one bird to another. Adding a few grains of potassium permanganate, sufficient to color the drinking water a deep purple will help to reduce the spread of infection.

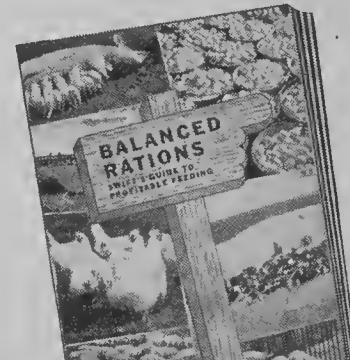
Where further aid is necessary to hasten recovery, the birds may be treated individually with a ten per cent solution of argyrol. One drop is placed in each eye and a similar amount in each nostril. Such individual treatment requires time, but it has proved a dependable means of reducing infection in the air passages, and aids recovery. During an epidemic of colds the amount of cod liver oil or pilchardene oil that is being fed should be increased. It can be added to the wet or dry mash, allowing a dessert to a tablespoonful daily for each twelve birds.



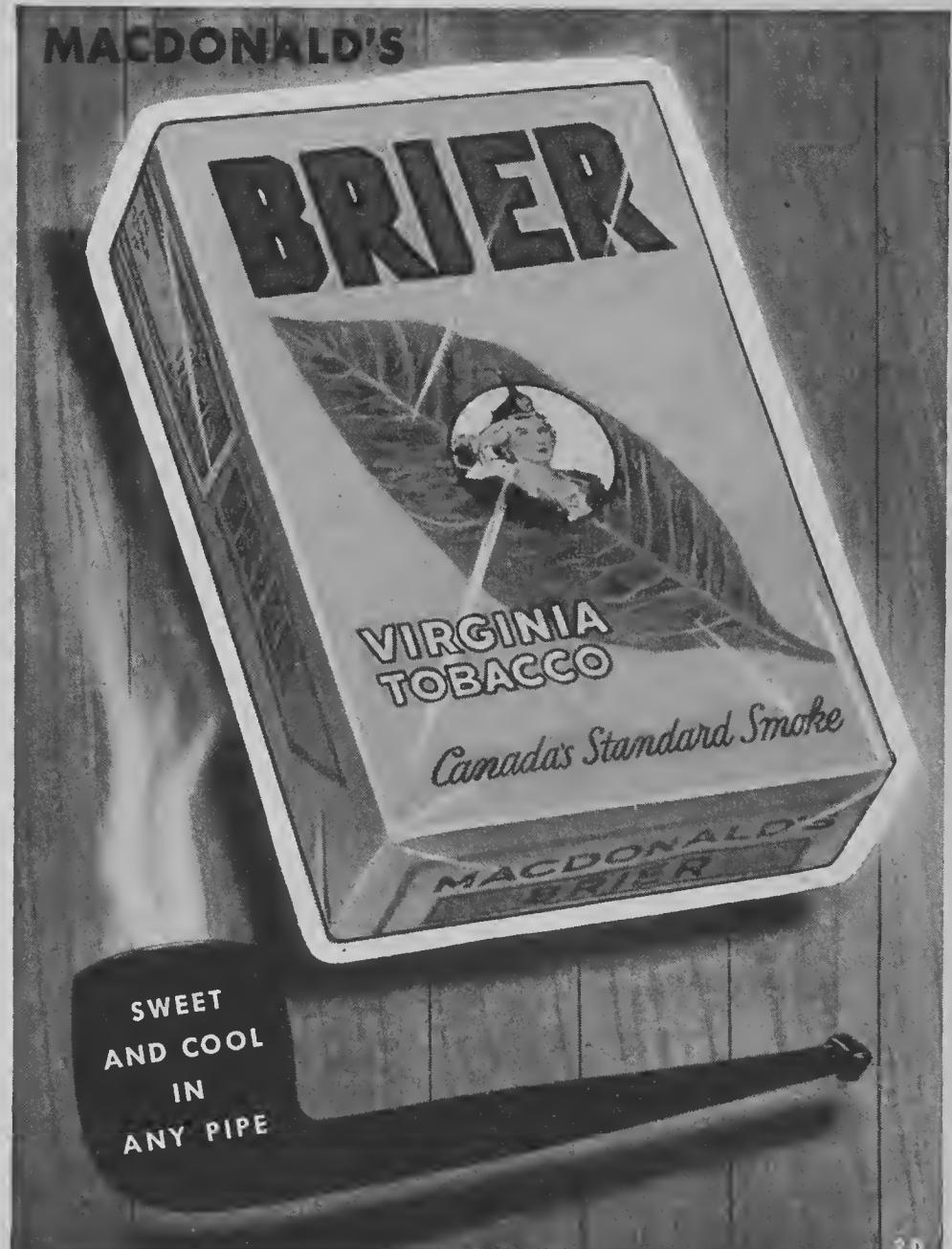
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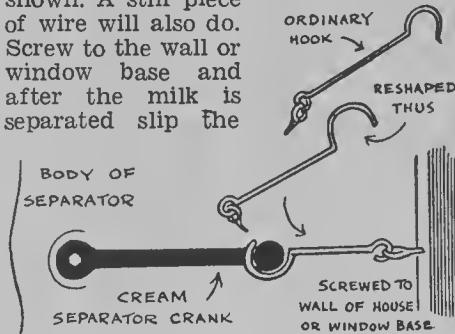
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## Portable Elevator and Several Gadgets

Hints for the handyman during spare winter hours

### Out of the Way

This is one way of hanging a cream separator handle out of the way. Take an ordinary hook and reshape it as shown. A stiff piece of wire will also do. Screw to the wall or window base and after the milk is separated slip the



handle of the crank on the hook.—Paul Tremblay, St. Paul, Alberta.

### Valve Caps Are Important

Valve caps on your auto tires are more than just dirt shields, in fact they are the only positive protection you have against air leaking out through the valves. The delicate "insides" are only check valves, whereas the valve caps will hold air pressures up to 260 pounds. Never drive without valve caps and don't ruin them by tightening with a pair of pliers.

### Toggle for Kettle Lid

The knobs are forever coming off kettle lids, generally due to rust on the screws and nuts. A good plan is to take out the old screw and nut and put an ordinary screw into the knob from beneath. Mine has served for about a year now with no sign of coming off.—Geo. Ray.

### Casters Stop Wall Scratching

Scratching of a wall of a barn or shed caused by opening and closing a large sliding door, may be prevented by inserting the shanks of a couple of bed casters into the door in such a way they will hold the door away from the wall. The casters will roll over the surface of the wood without marring it.

### A Trap That's Always Set

Use a pail or the bottom half of a square oil can. Grease the round can well and roll it in crumbs, board wheat or seeds until it is well coated. In the bottom put a few inches of water.

The mice jump from the board to the can, which turns around and dumps them into the water.—Mrs. Velma Sanders, Balfour, B.C.

### Tractor Kink

Does your tractor overheat? If so, the trouble may be caused by lime in the cooling system. The solution to the problem is to use soft water in the radiator.

### Shoes for Sawhorses

When it's necessary to use a sawhorse on a varnished floor scratching can be prevented by fitting the lower ends of the legs with inner tube "shoes." Cut eight-inch lengths of an old inner tube, bend them over the ends of the legs and twist wires around the legs to hold the rubber in place.

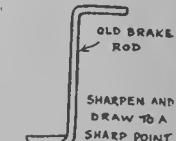
### Improvised Storm Door

Tacking a piece of linoleum on the outside of a screen door converts it into a practical storm door. If desired, you can let the screen stay on all winter because the linoleum will protect it from the weather.

### Cutter for Spreader Beater

The diagram shows a handy device I made for cutting strings and straw when they wrap around the beater of the manure spreader.

I took a piece of brake rod from an old car. A handle about five inches long was bent on one end, and a shorter bend about one inch long on the other end. This short turn was drawn to a point and the upper part drawn to a sharp edge as shown. This part can easily be slipped under the wrapped material and a slight pull on the handle cuts it loose.—I.W.D.

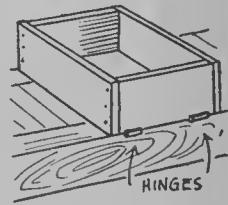


### Keeping Ice Out of Trough

Here is our plan to save chopping ice out of a watering trough. Lay one end on the well cover or other support so it is about an inch higher than the other end. Then bore a small hole through the lower end and provide a plug to close the hole. In very cold weather, remove the plug and drain out the water into a pipe or tile as soon as the stock are through drinking, corking the hole again when it is needed the next time.—J.D.

### Sanitary Feed Box

To make a feed box that is easy to clean, attach it to the manger with hinges as shown instead of nailing it in place. It can be quickly cleaned by turning it over.



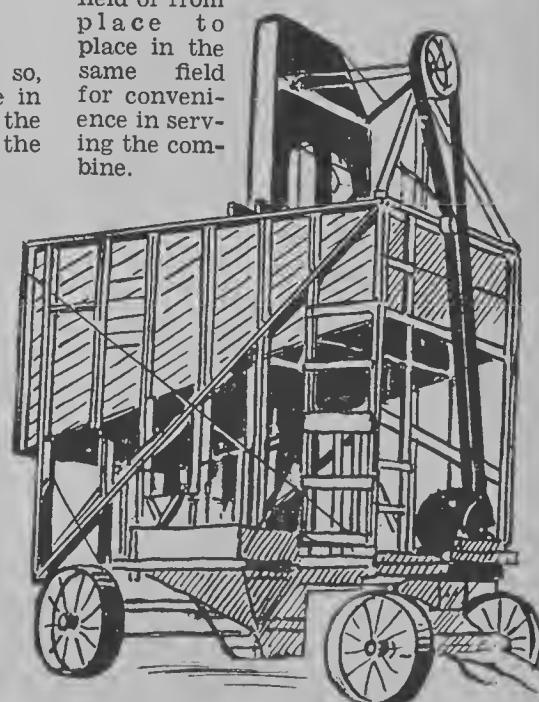
Paul Tremblay, St. Paul, Alberta.

### Cleaning Thresher

Make a tube 16 feet long out of sacks, one end just large enough to tie on the end of the blower and the other end about six inches in diameter. The small end has a loop of wire or a small rod extended for a handle. Turn the blower around over the thresher, tie on the large end of the tube and handle the other end so as to blow the thresher clean outside and in. This is the best by test method I ever saw.—T. K. Kelsey, Gunn, Alberta.

### Portable Elevator

This illustration shows the construction of the portable elevator and grain bin on the farm of Allen McCallister, of Portage la Prairie. It holds 300 bushels and is powered by a 3- to 5-horsepower engine. It is mounted on an old threshing machine running gear. It works well with the combine as it has considerable storage capacity. The elevator is of the bucket type and it makes short work of elevating the load of a combine. Besides, it is readily moved from field to field or from place to place in the same field for convenience in serving the combine.



# MONTHLY COMMENTARY

by UNITED GRAIN GROWERS LIMITED

## Keep Participation Certificates Carefully

Some time within the next few months a very large amount of money is to be paid out by the Canadian Wheat Board as participation certificates issued in respect of wheat delivered to it from the crops of 1940, 1941 and 1942. All told these payments will probably amount to more than fifty million dollars. No statement has yet been made as to the value of different participation certificates. Undoubtedly, however the values will be different for different years and for different grades within the same year.

The Wheat Board has not yet announced how the payments are to be made. Quite probably holders will be asked to surrender participation certificates. Consequently holders should get these documents together and keep them in a safe place so when the time comes they can be presented and payment can be received without delay.

No doubt many participation certificates will have been mislaid. For a long time they were not regarded as valuable and there was little expectation that payments would later be made against them. No doubt some procedure will be worked out to take care of lost certificates but probably in such cases there will be inevitable delay in making payments.

It is just as important to keep safely participation certificates issued in respect of this year's crop. There is good reason to expect that Wheat Board operations for the current year will produce a surplus to be distributed at some later date to farmers delivering wheat this year. Sales made to the United States this year are being applied to this year's deliveries and sales are being made at prices considerably higher than the basic initial price of \$1.25 paid by the Wheat Board. The basic sale price was in December, as high as \$1.41 cents and during 1944 may well go considerably higher.

## U.S. Suspends Duties on Feed Grain

Towards the end of December the Congress of the United States passed an act to remove the duties on feed grain imported into that country, for a period of 90 days. From the standpoint of farmers in the United States the move was evidently designed to make feed grain both more plentiful and cheaper. From the standpoint of the Canadian farmer the move could be expected to result in higher returns for his grain, and also the development of a broader market. But, because the remission of duties is to apply only during a short period, and at a time when navigation on the Great Lakes is closed, and when rail transportation facilities are restricted, it is not certain what benefits may be felt by farmers either in the United States or in Canada. It is to be hoped that the move which has been made in which there is a very clear recognition of the need in the United States for Canadian feed grain, may result in some permanent measure of free trade in such grain. On the other hand there is danger that if results from the current move are disappointing, sentiment may develop against such a permanent change.

Different circumstances apply to different grains. The remission of duties on feed barley is a clear invitation to Canada to ship such grain into the United States. But at the present time the Canadian Wheat Board is not issuing permits to export feed barley, and only shipments of malting barley are being allowed. If feed barley shipments were permitted the Board would be able to collect large amounts in equalization fees, well above 40 cents per bushel. This might not mean any more money to western farmers, who are now being paid 15 cents a bushel on barley on equalization fee account, regardless of

where the grain is ultimately shipped. It is improbable that the government will collect enough in equalization fees to offset such payments. Now that the United States has made a bid for Canadian feed barley by the remission of duties, there seems to be a possibility of criticism from that country if Canada fails to respond by permitting shipments. It may be difficult to make them understand that barley is being retained in Canada to make sure that there is a sufficient supply to take care of livestock in the eastern provinces.

The price of rye might have been expected to reflect the change in the duty situation, since the rye market in Canada is open, and theoretically should reflect increased demand from the United States. But actually the bulk of rye shipped across the border is not for feed, but is absorbed by millers and distillers. The benefit of the duty remission would be felt on only a small quantity. In addition rye prices on the Winnipeg market are quoted on the basis of in store lakehead terminals, and shipments by vessel will not be possible during the period for which duties have been suspended.

Shipments of oats to the United States are authorized at present, and the Wheat Board has lately been collecting equalization fees well over 30 cents a bushel when permits are issued. It might be thought that the Wheat Board could increase the price of such permits by eight cents a bushel, to allow for the fact that duties are not now imposed. But if it attempts to get the full benefit of the change for the benefit of Canada, it may be felt south of the line that efforts there to get more and cheaper oats by removing the duty are being frustrated by Canadian action. There are in store in bonded elevators in the United States considerable quantities of Canadian oats, the owners of which stand to make a profit from the remission of duty, if they already have export permits or can get them at the old price. As weeks pass, and as the time approaches when duties presumably will be reimposed, there is some danger that trade in oats may be hampered for a time, as purchasers will be uncertain whether or not they will be able to get the oats they buy across the border in time to escape the duty.

Wheat presents a still more complicated problem. The only sales of Canadian wheat which can be made are by the Canadian Wheat Board, which when duties were removed had been asking prices based on \$1.40 at the lakehead for No. 1 Northern although sales made were from wheat in store in eastern elevators and also in western country elevators. As soon as the duty came off the question arose as to whether or not the asking price would be increased by the amount of the former duty, 42 cents per bushel. The Canadian asking price had been about 42 cents per bushel under the value of our wheat in the United States, based on open market prices there. But there were complications. Previously the only purchaser in the United States had been the Commodity Credit Corporation, which as a government agency either did not have to pay duty, or did not need to care about duty, which in any event would go to another branch of the Government. It was the C.C.C. which had arranged space in American vessels to carry large quantities of western wheat to eastern lake ports in the United States, wheat which was expected to be sold to them although sales had not yet been completed. Would it be proper to advance the asking price on such wheat. Then the C.C.C. had arranged with American railways for some thousands of cars to be sent into western Canada for wheat to be moved all rail to destinations in the United States. Could the price be advanced on wheat to be so shipped? If the C.C.C. should object to paying a higher price, could wheat to be shipped in such cars be offered to private dealers in the United States, who are now able to

*United Grain Growers Limited  
extends to all Shareholders and  
Customers of the Company  
Best Wishes for the New Year*

import wheat without paying duty provided they can find transportation to move it?

That there is danger of misunderstanding developing between the two countries in respect to these shipments was shown by an incident when the Bill to remove duties was still being discussed. An officer of the United States government made some reference to stocks of wheat which the Canadian Wheat Board had aboard American lake vessels in the East, and various newspapers and members of Congress suggested that the Wheat Board was delaying sales until after duties had been removed, in order to take advantage of the higher price. The chairman of the Wheat Board, Mr. McIvor, had to issue a public statement to show that nothing of the kind had occurred, and his statement was accepted by the American official who had made the original reference. Nevertheless a certain amount of harm, even although limited in extent had been done to friendly relations between the two countries by the opportunity which had been given for criticism in some quarters.

Probably more wheat than all other grain combined will be moved into the United States during the period of duty free movement. As the time approaches for duties to be reimposed again, difficulties will develop in making sales, because buyers will not be certain if they can get their grain moved in time to escape duties.

In this connection it is interesting to note that there are considerable quantities of wheat in western country elevators owned by United States agents for the Commodity Credit Corporation. It was before September 27, when the new Canadian wheat policy came into effect. The buyers, in order to make sure of their wheat, bought it in country elevators, and agreed to pay storage charges on it until shipped. Large quantities have been in store for four months or more, awaiting the opportunity for cars to be provided.

The action of Congress in suspending duties on feed grain, is another striking proof of the need in the United States for such grain from Canada. It will be fortunate if the recognition of that fact leads to a permanent change in tariff policy of our neighbor to the south. The fact that duties have been suspended for so short a period, and at a time when transportation is so difficult, will prevent the full benefits of such development from being apparent. Nevertheless we must hope that the people of the United States will be pleased with the results of what they have done in this instance.

## Crown Wheat and Board Wheat

The Canadian Wheat Board this year is handling two classes of wheat, Crown wheat and Board wheat.

Board wheat is wheat delivered by producers during the current crop year. For that the Wheat Board pays an initial price based on \$1.25 per bushel for No. 1 Northern in store at Lakehead Terminals and producers get participation certificates enabling them to share in any surplus realized. In dealing with such wheat the Canadian Wheat Board is agent for the producers, with the duty of selling their wheat to the best possible advantage. Such wheat cannot be sold in Canada, to Great Britain or to other countries to which wheat is being shipped at the expense of the Canadian government under the Mutual Aid plan. Needs of those coun-

tries are being taken care of from Crown wheat. Board wheat however, can be sold to other countries. The most important of these is the United States, to which very large sales are now being made. Such sales are made at fluctuating prices in accordance with changes in market volumes, for there is still a fluctuating market in spite of the fact that the Winnipeg futures market no longer operates.

Crown wheat is all western wheat which was in commercial positions as at September 27, 1943, whether at that time carried by the Wheat Board or by grain companies. It is, to use the words of the Order in Council in which the new Government policy is embodied, vested in His Majesty, and to be carried for account of His Majesty. In other words it is Government wheat, and in respect to it the Wheat Board is the agent of the Government, carrying out such instructions as the Government gives it. For such wheat the Government is paying the closing market price of September 27 which for No. 1 Northern was \$1.23½ cents per bushel, basis in store lakehead terminals. The quantity taken over included Wheat Board stocks from the crops of 1940, 1941, and 1942. This sale to the Government created surpluses in the hands of the Wheat Board for the crops of those years, which are shortly to be distributed by the Board to holders of participation certificates. As from that date participation certificate holders ceased to have any interest in the future disposition of such wheat and are not concerned whether the Government sells at a loss or at a profit, or gives the wheat away.

When Crown wheat is disposed of quite a different price basis to that used for Board wheat applies. Under instructions from the Government actual sales are made on the basis of \$1.25 per bushel and transactions are recorded on that basis when wheat, instead of being sold, is furnished to other countries under the Mutual Aid plan. The largest part of Crown wheat goes to satisfy British needs, either for shipment of actual wheat or for flour milled in Canada. The second largest quantity represents wheat sold in Canada either milled for domestic flour needs or used for feeding purposes. Then comes seed wheat as is being currently supplied for use in Russia, Greece and other allied countries or as is being reserved for future relief purposes.

The total quantity of Crown wheat as at September 27 was something over 300 million bushels, and the cost to the Government was probably more than four hundred million dollars. The quantity will probably be sufficient to take care of requirements up to July 31, 1944, and for a portion of the next crop year. But at some time after July 31st next, Crown wheat will be exhausted. How then will Canada, Great Britain and other countries be supplied? There are several possible courses:

(a) The Government might take over an additional quantity of Board wheat, on the basis of values then prevailing or on the basis of \$1.25 per bushel plus accrued carrying charges.

(b) The Government might instruct the Wheat Board to meet from its stocks carried for account of producers the needs which now are being met from Crown wheat, and to do so on the basis of \$1.25 per bushel plus such adjustment for carrying charges as may be required, or

(c) The Wheat Board might be allowed to meet such needs from its stocks and to charge prices in accordance with current market values.

It will be interesting to see which of these alternatives will be chosen by the Government, and the choice will have a bearing on the amounts later to be paid on participation certificates for the current crop year. Probably for the duration of the war and for some time thereafter the Government will feel a responsibility for prices to be charged for wheat in Canada and furnished to certain other countries and to keep such prices from rising beyond certain levels.

## "Everyone says you're tied to that baby's apron strings!"



1. That remark, coming from Doris, my sister-in-law, really irritated me. And to make it worse she went on about all the special things I had for the baby. "Special this, special that," she said, "and now even a special laxative."



2. "So," I said, "I suppose you think I'm spoiling the child! Well, let me tell you my own doctor told me that a baby needs special care. A baby isn't just a small-sized adult—its system is a lot more delicate and easily upset."



4. "And—since you seem to be so interested—Castoria won't upset the baby's stomach or interfere with appetite and digestion. Now do you see why I insist on having a laxative made especially for children?"



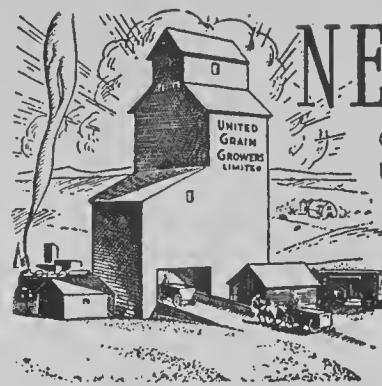
6. I bought the money-saving Family Size bottle. And, the next time the baby needed a laxative I gave her Castoria. "See," I said to Doris, "it's even pleasant-tasting, so children like to take it." She just said, "Sister, you win!"

**CASTORIA**

The SAFE laxative made especially for children.

As the medical profession knows, the chief ingredient in Castoria—senna—has an excellent reputation in medical literature.

Research has proved that senna works mostly in the lower bowel, so it rarely disturbs the appetite or digestion. In regulated doses senna produces easy elimination and almost never gripes or irritates.



# NEIGHBORLY NEWS

Contributed by the Elevator Agents of  
UNITED GRAIN GROWERS LIMITED

were Reuben and Harold Giebelhaus, first; Ezra and Daniel Eberhart, second. Exhibits were judged by E. C. Hallman, of the department of agriculture.

### CLIVE, ALTA.—*A Highlight Of The Past Year.*

Highlight of the year for the Clive Junior Oat Club was their annual seed fair and grain judging competition which achieved a 98% attendance of members.

The fair and competition was supervised by A. W. Lampitt, district fieldman, and J. E. Birdsall, district agriculturist. The fair was sponsored by United Grain Growers Limited.

Some very good seed oats were exhibited, and prizes were awarded as follows: First, Albert Wagner; second, Floyd Westling; third, Iris King; fourth, Gloria King, and fifth, Lorne Joslin.

In the grain judging competition, the results were as follows: First, Lorne Joslin; second, Everett Joslin; third, Albert Wagner; fourth, Aileen Strandberg; fifth, Floyd Westling.

A first prize was awarded to Floyd Westling and second prize to the King sisters, for the best plots of seed oats. The presentation was made by R. H. Kane (agent) on behalf of United Grain Growers United.

Following the judging and presentation of awards, a brief meeting was held, and a delightful lunch was served by mothers of the members, and all enjoyed an educational and pleasant afternoon.

### GOULDSTOWN, SASK.—*A Successful Red Cross Event.*

The Big Coulee School and Ladies Aid in that district were successful in raising \$85 at a recent dance and sale of fancy work. Seventy-five dollars was turned into the Red Cross and the \$10 was for school repairs.

### RENWER, MAN.—*The Big Bad Wolf Meets His Match.*

Renwer and district hunters enjoyed fine weather and good hunting during the season just closed. They nearly all secured their allowance of game, which was plentiful and in good condition. Timber wolves are also reported to be rather too plentiful in the northern part of this district; one nimrod was lucky enough to bag a dandy and another reports seeing seven in a single band, which is just too many timber wolves for the good of our wild game and our domestic animals as well.

### RUTLAND, SASK.—*Twenty-Six Years U.G.G. Local Secretary.*

R. T. Ricketts, who was secretary of the U.G.G. local No. 318 here for 26 years, has moved to Creston, B.C.

Mr. and Mrs. Ricketts were honored guests at a local gathering prior to their departure. Presentation of a travelling bag was made on behalf of the gathering by J. R. Brown who, with Mr. Ricketts, was one of the earliest settlers here. The district generally, will feel the loss of these two valued friends.



A Deer at Peace

SOUTHMINSTER, SASK.—*Farmers Help Prepare Road Clearance.*

The farmers of the Southminster district turned out in full strength recently and cut and piled the brush on the road from the meridian east for two miles to the elevators at Southminster. This was done in preparation for having this two miles graded, and possibly gravelled in 1944. The cutting of this brush will help keep the snow from drifting and filling this road in as in past years.

The road work on the meridian has been delayed until spring, when the grading and graveling will be completed for 16 miles south from Lloydminster.

MATHER, MAN.—*Celebrates 95th Birthday.*

Wm. S. Coulthard, oldest Mather pioneer, celebrated his 95th birthday recently. Mr. Coulthard left Glencoe, Ont., for Mather in 1880 and has been a valued and respected member of the community ever since. He continues to lead an active life and last summer planted and looked after his garden as usual.

McCREARY, MAN.—*Celebrate Fifty Years Married.*

Mr. and Mrs. Theophile Barre, well-known oldtimers of this district, celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary recently. The couple came to the McCreary district direct from France, and are still living on their homestead where they have been for the past forty-seven years. Mr. Barre is one of the original shareholders of the United Grain Growers Limited in this area.

An enjoyable evening was held in the McCreary Municipal Hall to honor the couple. Mr. and Mrs. Barre have 23 grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Cantin have just received word from overseas that their son, Maurice, is missing in active service overseas with the R.C.A.F.

Maurice graduated from No. 10 Airport Dauphin a little over a year ago, went overseas shortly after, and has been on active duty for some months.

Before joining the R.C.A.F. Maurice was assistant to the local U.G.G. agent during the fall of 1941. He is the second son of Mr. and Mrs. Cantin to be reported missing in air operations.

PILGER, SASK.—*Final Returns Show \$350 Above Quota.*

Final returns on the Fifth Victory Loan drive show this district well over the top. The district includes Middle Lake and Pilger and is only 9 miles by 12 miles. The quota set was \$10,000 and it was exceeded by \$350.

H. H. Berting, local United Grain Growers Limited agent, was one of the salesmen.

WINNIPEG, MAN.—“*Words, Idle Words*” Was Shakespeare Right?

To those who are interested in comparative statistics and in the need for word rationing, Wilber Kenny of the head office staff sends in the following gem culled from a local newspaper via St. Louis, U.S.A. Says Wilber, “Canadian politicians please note.”

The story of the creation of the world is told in Genesis in 400 words.

The world's greatest moral code, the Ten Commandments, contains only 400 words.

Lincoln's immortal “Gettysburg Address” is but 266 words in length.

The Declaration of Independence required only 1,321 words to set up a new conception of freedom.

The Office of Price Administration uses 2,500 words to announce a reduction in the price of cabbage seeds.

BUTLER, MAN.—*An Unusual Sight.*

A very unusual sight was seen on the farm of P. N. McPhail, north of Power. Mr. McPhail burned a straw pile at night on December 11, 1943. This is unusual in this way—we have never had enough straw to burn for the last ten years in this district! And here is another circumstance worth recording. We never hear “water” mentioned now as we did a few years ago. The dugouts have proven such a wonderful success. All the farmers in our district appreciate these dugouts very much, both as a time

saver, and a sure source of water supply. For both the above-mentioned “unusual sights” we hereby wish to record our heartfelt thanks both as individuals and as a community.

CALGARY, ALTA.—*Former U.G.G. Staff Member Receives Decoration.*

Another member of the U.G.G.'s Alberta staff, who enlisted for overseas service, has been decorated—Flight Lieutenant Gerald B. Leddy (Gerry).

Gerry Leddy was born at LaFleche, Saskatchewan. He is 22 years old and went to school at Clairmont, Alberta, and the St. Mary's Boys School in Calgary, Alberta. He joined the Canadian Air Force in December 1940, and went overseas in October, 1941, where he has been serving continuously since that time. He was a popular member of the Calgary office staff. Everyone in the office was delighted to learn of his safety after being first reported missing, and then to learn of his decoration.

Another brother, L.A.C. Melville Leddy is also serving overseas. Following is the report of F/L Leddy's award from a local newspaper:

“Flight Lieut. Gerald B. Leddy, son of Mrs. E. Leddy, 613 5th Avenue West, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, according to an R.C.A.F. announcement received from Ottawa.

The citation said he had completed a number of operational sorties against major targets in Germany and Italy.

In October last during an attack on the Italian mainland he was forced down onto the sea by engine trouble.

His skill and coolness on this occasion enabled his whole crew to escape with only minor injuries, quoted the citation.

On another occasion he had to make a crash landing in the desert, which he accomplished successfully.

According to a news dispatch earlier this month F/L Leddy and his crew spent 15 hours in a rubber dinghy after his Wellington bomber landed in the Mediterranean. They were eventually picked up by a destroyer who sighted their last remaining flare.

F/L Leddy enlisted in the air force in 1940 and went overseas the following year.”

NEWDALE, MAN.—*Local Pastor's Narrow Escape.*

While going down the river hill northwest of town Dr. Kippen's car turned completely over on the icy slope against the trees. Neither the doctor nor Mrs. Dipper, who was riding with him, were hurt. The car sustained several large dings.

STRATHCLAIR, MAN.—*Adult Educational Movement.*

The Adult Educational Movement, sponsored by the University of Manitoba and directed by Watson Thomson, made a good start here at a well attended meeting. Mr. Thomson gave an outline of the aims and the material for use by the study groups taking part. His address was much appreciated. F. Ransom, of Winnipeg, who was present in the audience, also gave an interesting talk on the subject. At a further meeting called it was decided to form three mixed groups, with Miss Lee, Rev. Mr. Harland and J. M. Black as leaders of the respective groups. The groups will meet every week during the winter months and on Thursday nights when they will first listen to the Broadcast over CBC on the subject chosen for the night. Anyone is welcome to join one of the groups or form a new group. The object of the movement is to have everyone acquaint themselves with national and world problems.

\* \* \*

The Annual Folk School of district No. 3, sponsored by the Manitoba Federation of Agriculture, was held this year in the municipal hall at Strathclair and lasted ten days. The young people attending came from Bernie, Decker, Solsgirth, Foxwarren, Binscarth and Strathclair districts. The groups were under the leadership of Miss Helen Mathison, assisted by Miss Helen Buchanan. F. W. Ransom, of Winnipeg, was an associate instructor. These Folk Schools are becoming more popular each year and have become a factor in fitting our youth for the leadership in the problems facing agriculture.

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## THE LAST SHOT

Continued from page 11

He had for the moment at least spiked her guns. Willa had been given a new and disturbing viewpoint. Was it possible that what she had said to Joe Fallon about Stewart had been responsible for the attack upon him and therefore indirectly for the death of one man and the wounding of two others? She had not meant any harm, of course. Out of her indignation at Fallon, her resentment that he had the air of being a friend of her family, she had struck at him by using the suspicion in her mind for attack. The fear that she might be responsible for the battle at Mesa was like a sickness that ran through her system.

She carried this distress back with her to the room where one of the victims of that battle lay wounded, and she stood looking at him with troubled eyes. She wished she knew the truth, and yet she shrank from it. Why was life so complicated instead of being simple and clear? Young fellows like this West Stewart and her brother Win were nice decent boys. She knew they were, and yet she was fighting a conviction that both of them were rustlers. What was it that took good-hearted lads, loyal and faithful, and twisted their destinies to sinister and evil purposes?

When her father came in to relieve her he noticed she was more than usually silent.

"Tired, honey?" he asked, putting an arm around her and drawing her slender body to his side.

"I reckon so." Then, unexpectedly to herself, she leaned against his rough vest and began to cry.

This was a demonstration so unusual that her father was taken aback. "Why, li'l girl, what's trouble you?" he wanted to know, and softly stroked her heavy wavy hair.

"Everything. I'm worried," she sobbed softly.

"Sho! You don't need to worry, honey bird. Fallon can't do a thing to hurt us."

"It's not only that. It's everything," she repeated comprehensively.

"Well now, what, for instance?"

She named the first thing in her mind. "Well, Win! What's he so thick with Joe Fallon for? What was it Fallon made him promise to do, something he didn't want to do?"

The father hesitated. "Only to let him know before Stewart left here, after he's well enough to go."

"So he can kill him. Why should Win have to promise that? What has he got on him?"

"Now, honey, what's the use of worrying about things that'll work out all right?"

"But will they?" She caught at the lapels of his coat and looked straight into his eyes. "Dad, how deep is Win in with Fallon's gang? Was he in that rustling I saw at the park?"

**C**LIFF chose his words after due consideration. "I've had a talk with Win. He came clean. I know right where he's at. If he's done wrong, why there'll be no more of it. Don't you reckon you can leave that with me, li'l girl?"

She nodded, drying her eyes. "What about this boy here?" she asked. "He seems . . . Oh, I don't know, but he doesn't seem like a . . . like a thief. Is he one of Joe Fallon's gang?"

"No. I don't know who he is. But by his own story he's a rustler. I expect he knew too much. So Joe figured that dead men don't tell tales."

"I was so proud of you, Dad, when you stood up to those ruffians a while ago. Joe Fallon blustered. But you didn't. You just stood like a rock in his way. But if you're going to notify him to have his gang ready to kill this boy soon as he leaves the house . . ."

"That would be like me, wouldn't it?" he asked.

"No, it wouldn't," she admitted. "But if Win promised . . ."

"Don't you think you could trust me again, honey?"

"Why, yes, I could. But couldn't you trust me and tell me what you're going to do? Even though I am a girl I don't want to be kept out of everything. This matters as much to me as it does to the rest of the family."

He considered this a moment. "All right. We'll notify Joe all right, but when Stewart goes we'll ride with him till he reaches a place of safety. After that he'll have to look out for himself. I'm going through, because it's up to me. But I want this young fellow off my hands soon as I can."

"Do you think I made trouble for you by bringing him here?" she asked anxiously.

"No, I reckon not, honey. Joe Fallon has been gettin' too biggity. Far as I'm concerned he's no little tin god on wheels, an' I don't take orders from him. I've used his crowd . . . had to use 'em in fighting Eaton an' his outfit. But I haven't made any contract with Joe

to let him run on me when he pleases. Sooner he finds that out the better. We were about due for a showdown, him an' me."

Willa had so much to think about that she did not expect to get to sleep for a long time. It was a theory of hers that she could think things out better when she was in bed and the lights out.

But she was healthily tired, and the crowded events of the day grew hazy before her mind. In a little while her eyes closed.

When they opened it was broad day. She dressed and went down to breakfast. Her father and the boys were already eating.

Good mornings having been said, she asked. "How is he?" referring to the patient upstairs.

"Doing fine, looks like. That young fellow will take a heap of killin' before he quits kickin'. Back East he'd probably 'a' been dead, but you have to shoot a man thorough out in this open country."

The doctor reinforced this verdict later in the day. Stewart's temperature was down and he was again in his right mind. He slept a good deal.

"Best thing he can do," Doctor Peters said. "Let him sleep and keep him quiet. I'll be back tomorrow."

"How is Denver Pete?" Cliff asked.

"Don't know for sure, but every hour he hangs on gives him a better chance. I shouldn't wonder if he pulls through."

"He's ornery enough. I reckon he will," the cattleman said.

The doctor agreed. "Yes, I don't suppose I'm doing the community a service by saving him. But it's my job. See you tomorrow."

**W**ILLA sat by the bedside of her patient reading. At least she had in her hand a book, though her thoughts wandered a good deal. They had to do with the young man on the bed, at least a fair part of the time. She could not reconcile what he was with what he seemed to be.

Just now his eyes were closed, so she could study him undisturbed. She decided he was not bad looking, and that there was something fine about his sensitive mouth, his cleancut features, and the contour of his head. A face like his ought not to belong to an outlaw.

She fixed her attention again on the book. When he spoke to her she was a little startled, for she had thought him asleep.

"I'm gonna make the grade," he told her.

"Yes. You've been doing so well. You lost a lot of blood, but the doctor says you're building it up fast."

"How long have I been here?"

"Four days."

"I figured it was four." Then, after a moment, "You brought me here, didn't you?"

"Yes."

"I remember it . . . bits of it . . . how you helped me to the saddle and held me there. I was right weak, I reckon."

"Yes," she agreed again.

"They shot me up at Mesa . . . Fallon's crowd."

"I know. We've heard all about it."

"They attacked me. Soon as they be-

gan crowdin' me I knew they meant to."

"They are a bad lot," the girl conceded.

"D'y' hear how they came out? I musta hit one."

"Dug Howard was killed and Denver Pete badly wounded."

"I was lucky," he said, after a moment.

She thought he had made his own luck, at least so far as the battle went. But she did not say so.

"Why didn't you leave when they came into Park's Place . . . before they knew who you were?"

"Why should I leave? What difference would it make when they knew my name?" His keen eyes looked straight into hers.

She flushed a little, then answered contritely. "I told Joe Fallon about you."

"What about me?"

"That you had seen him branding up in the park. I thought you were one of his outfit, and I wanted him to know that I knew."

"Oh, that was the way of it. I didn't see why they all saw red when I gave 'em my name."

"If I'd known how it was I wouldn't have said anything."

He nodded smiling appreciation of that and passed to another angle of the situation. "I don't savvy why Fallon didn't come here an' bump me off while I couldn't help myself. Doesn't he know I'm here?"

"Yes, he knows. He and his crowd came here the first night."

"They did?" He looked enquiry at her.

"Fallon was rarin' to get at you, but Dad wouldn't let him in."

"That was white of yore father."

"He's that way."

"I expect Fallon is still crazy to get me."

"Yes, Dad and the boys stay pretty close to the house."

"I'm an awful nuisance," he said.

Presently, unable to keep back any longer what was in her mind, she flung a question at him. "Are you really a rustler?"

His answer was enigmatic, but he gave it with a smile that was as good as a letter of recommendation. "Let's not talk about that. Believe the best of me you can."

"How can I believe good of you when you refuse to tell me that you're an honest man? You can say yes or no. You are or you're not. That's all there is to it."

"Is that all?" he asked, and again his winsome smile pleaded for him. "You reduce things to elementals, don't you? I expect you're one of those young ladies who believe in novels where men are either villains or heroes."

"Why not?"

"Don't you think we're most of us both good and bad?"

"That's a convenient way for a dishonest man to escape judgment, isn't it? I mean it would be," she corrected herself dryly.

"Still, it's true."

"Even Joe Fallon? Is he a good man, too?"

"Well, the white streaks don't show much in Fallon," he admitted. "But I expect he must have 'em somewhere. Probably he plays square with his gang."

"I don't know a good thing about him. He's bad. What's the use of pre-

tending about folks? If they are cruel, brutal, merciless, and have no respect for the rights of others they are bad. That's what Joe Fallon is. I'd a soon live in the house with a rattlesnake."

"You don't think I'm like that, even if I am a rustler?" he asked.

"No. But I think if you're a rustler and don't right about face now that you'll grow worse instead of better as the years go on."

Stewart looked at her, slender yet steel strong, one carrying a gallant spirit in a body young and lissome and vital. There rose in him a swift passionate impulse of emotion. What a desirable mate she would be for some lucky man one of these days! All his life he had cherished his freedom. He did not want the safe harborage of a fireside of his own, of the domesticity of wife and children. At least he never had, for the open spaces called to him. But now . . . there flashed before him the swift vision of a home with Willa Wylie as its presiding genius, and his heart leaped like a living thing at the picture.

"All right. I'll make you a promise," he said. "If I've been a rustler I'll not be one any more."

The color flushed her cheek. It was an expression of the swift throb of joy that beat through her heart at his pledge. She had not known she cared so much, that her feeling about him was so personal and close. Because it was, because she so wanted him to be good and clean, she found herself forced by way of concealment to make stipulations.

"You mustn't say this because I want you to," she said, with a queer effect of shy primness. "You must say it because it's right to obey the laws and respect other people's property."

"What do you care why I promise it, so long as I do?"

"Because, don't you see, it must be a matter of principle? You can't change your life just because some girl asks you to. That would be silly."

He subdued a swift smile, "All right. I reckon I'd better stay rustler, then, huh?"

She looked at him with a flash of anger. "I don't want your promise if that's all it's worth."

His eyes sobered. "I'm not saying it lightly, Miss Wylie. I may joke about it, but I'm aimin' to stand pat on what I promise."

"Well . . ." she said doubtfully.

"Let's shake hands on it," he said, and his eyes cajoled her.

She gave him her hand, not frankly as she would have done an hour ago but with a queer reluctant ecstasy she could not understand.

**W**ES STEWART had been brought up in the high hills where one breathes deep draughts of pure air and where exercise in sun and wind bring toughness of fibre to sturdy youth. His had been a rough turbulent hard riding life. Now this stood him in good stead. One of less hardihood might have succumbed to the shock of his wound and the subsequent loss of blood. But, as the doctor had expected and Cliff Wylie had predicted, he held his own after the fever had subsided and rapidly built up the lost strength. Within a week, given the aid of a stick or Willa's arm, he could



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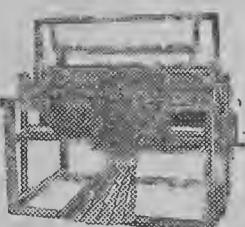
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## THE COUNTRY GUIDE

hobble from the bed to the window and back.

Though Fallon had extorted from Win Wylie a promise to let him know when his enemy was ready to leave, the leader of the Martin's Hole outlaws apparently did not trust the pledge. Riding about their business in the surrounding country, Cliff and his sons more than once came upon riders from the Hole who gave specious and rather embarrassed excuses for their presence so near the C.W. Cliff knew and they knew that he knew the reason for their being there. They were watching the roads to make sure their victim did not slip away.

"He's aimin' to get young Stewart, Joe is," said Cliff to his sons. "An' he's overlookin' no bets. I don't reckon Joe can hardly afford to let the kid go, the way he's played his hand."

"Looks thataway," assented Jim. "Joe's power rests on his reputation as a sure enough bad man, an' Stewart has certainly given that one jolt. Folks have been plumb scared of Joe. They kinda sidestep when he's around an' say 'You're sure right, Joe.' If it was to be passed around that Stewart has stood up to him an' his gang an' got away with it, why I expect someone else would be callin' for a showdown one of these days. I look for Stewart to be killed mighty soon after he leaves the ranch, though I hate to think of it. Fact is, Dad, I like him. He looks you straight in the eye."

"Me, too, on that likin' stuff," assented his brother. "He's got guts, too. I reckon Joe don't hardly know what to make of it, having someone stand up to him an' claim his half the road. Outside of Dad the other day, I don't recollect anyone ever facing Joe down before."

"I don't reckon we can do a thing about it," Cliff said. "Stewart's only chance is to slip outta the country inconspicuous. Maybe he can make his getaway; maybe he can't."

A few mornings later Cliff announced at breakfast that he had to go to town to see a buyer. "Looks like we can do business on that bunch of two-year-olds, if he stands to what he said in his letter."

"Will you be gone all day?" Willa said.

"Most likely. Can't say for sure. But don't you worry, honey. The boys will be here."

"I'll not worry. Joe Fallon won't hurt us." She said it almost scornfully. Somehow, of late, she was measuring the leader of the Martin's Hole gang with another yardstick. This wounded boy had outfought him. Her father had faced and frustrated his blustering rage. He was, of course, dangerous, but he was not invincible.

Willa went about her household tasks singing. It had not occurred to her that she sang more these days, that music somehow involuntarily bubbled out of her heart. Nor, if she had thought about it, would she have connected her state of mind with the young fellow convalescing upstairs.

She prepared his midday dinner and carried it to him on a tray. He was dressed, except for coat and boots, and he lay propped up with pillows while he read Treasure Island. He put the book face down on the counterpane, open at the place where he had been reading.

"Funny," he said. "This John Silver in the story. He's one of the worst ever. He'd never hesitate to stick a knife in a fellow's back. But somehow you kinda like him. I've known bad men like that. You knew what they were, but they had a way that made you sort of like them."

"Is Joe Fallon one of them?" she asked, smiling.

"No, ma'am. He's the kind that rubs you the wrong way. But this Silver . . . I'd like to have sat there an' heard him spin his yarns while the ship went sailin' over sunny seas."

He ate with ravenous appetite of one who needs food to rebuild lost blood. She was pleased, for she had cooked the food herself, and the mother instinct in her was delighted at the evidence of his returning health.

"You couldn't eat like that a week ago," she told him.

"No, ma'am. If it hadn't been for you I never would have eaten like that again. You pulled me through, first by

bringing me here, then by yore nursin' an' cookin'. I certainly owe you more than I can ever pay, for I'm makin' the grade fine. Soon now I can hit the trail an' quit burdenin' you."

"You're not burdening us," she said.

This was not merely the politeness of a hostess. She meant it more than even the words implied. She knew she would miss him a great deal when he left. For she had never met anybody like him before, so interesting in the different aspects of his character. He was so contradictory that he puzzled her. There were times when he was a boy, high spirits bubbling in him, his talk full of nonsense and badinage. There were other hours when she sensed in him the cold still wariness of a maturity that dwelt with no illusions. Even in his gay youthfulness she felt a reserve of poised reticence. His talk might have the humorous tang of the range rider, a humor of inflection, of manner, of exaggeration rather than wit, but even at his lightest he showed shrewd appreciation of values.

She wondered what he was, who he was. Some deep instinct in her denied that he was a common horsethief who happened to have attractive physical endowment.

**A RIDER** cantered up the road to the CW ranch and swung from the saddle in front of the porch.

"Hello the house!" he called.

Win strolled out. He recognized the rider as a ne'er-do-well cowpuncher.

"Lo, Chet! How are cases?" he asked. "Cliff done been hurt by a fall. A rattler scared the bronc, reckon, and it piled the ol' man," explained the puncher.

From the window above Willa heard and called down anxiously. "Is he badly hurt?"

The man looked up. He showed no embarrassment as he plucked a dusty hat from his head. "I don't rightly know how bad he's hurt, ma'am. He's done bust a laig an' kinda jolted himself up inside."

"Where is he?" asked Win.

"Bout two-three miles from here, reckon. The fur side of that Lone Pine. He said for you two boys to bring the buckboard for him an' for Miss Willa to fix up the bed here."

"Is he in a great deal of pain?" the girl called down.

"No, ma'am. Not so much, seemed like. He'll pull through all right, though he's some busted up, like I done said."

Willa and her brothers consulted and decided that the boys should bring their father in as he had directed. Caldwell, the puncher, was to ride for the doctor. It struck Willa that the range rider acted queerly. If she had not thought it unreasonable she would have said that he strangled a laugh in a cough as he assented to the plan.

The girl put clean linen on her father's bed. She was busy sorting the clothes flung here and there when Stewart's voice carried across the hall with news.

"More visitors," he announced. "Three of 'em this time."

Willa joined him. He was at the window looking through his field glasses. Three horsemen were galloping toward the house from the edge of the woods. They were riding fast. The sight of them stirred instantly in the girl's troubled heart a quick and heavy dread.

Stewart handed her the binoculars. She observed a curious look in his face. The eyes had hardened and the jaw tightened.

"Trouble ahead," he said quietly.

She focused the glasses, then after a moment lowered them.

"Joe Fallon," she said, and cried the words from a sinking heart.

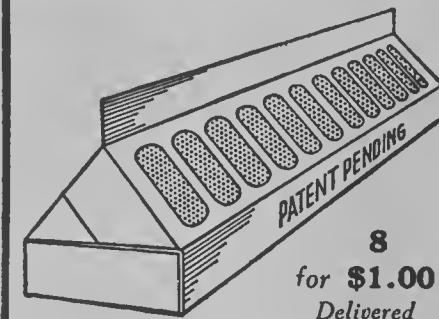
He nodded. "Sure. A plant, I reckon. I mean about yore father. Prob'lly they sent Caldwell to get yore brothers outta the way."

"What'll we do?" she cried, white to the lips.

"You're not in this," he said. "I'll stand 'em off if I can. Get me a gun. Then you go and lock yourself in a back room an' stay there till it's all over."

She flew to a chest of drawers and brought him the revolver she sometimes carried for rattlesnakes. She ran down-

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There are few ailments that can make you feel older, more worn-out and unable to keep going than bladder weakness and kidney trouble. And the reason for this is that when your kidneys and bladder slow down in their work uric acid and other poisons gradually accumulate in your system and frequently cause backache, getting up nights, leg pains, nervousness, rheumatic pains, frequent colds and loss of energy.

### Help Kidneys Remove Acids

Women, and men too, will be surprised and delighted to see how quickly and easily they can relieve backache, getting up nights, burning passages and other kidney and bladder troubles by simply aiding the kidneys and bladder to filter and clean out excess acids and poisonous wastes.

As we grow older our kidneys at times may slow down in their work of filtering and purifying the blood. And when this happens uric acid, and other poisons have a tendency to accumulate in the system, making you feel older, worn-out and suffer from many aches, pains and troubles. But by simply helping the kidneys and bladder to perform their work more normally thousands of men and women in Canada and throughout the British Empire have discovered joyous relief and new energy.

Nearly twenty years ago a scientific formula called Cystex was made available to the public through drug stores, making it easy and inexpensive to help

thousands suffering from kidney and bladder troubles in these three simple ways: 1. Help the kidneys remove excess acids, which may become poisonous and irritating. 2. To palliate burning and smarting of the urinary passages, and bladder irritation. 3. Help the kidneys clean out wastes which may become poisonous, thus aiding nature in stimulating an increase of energy and a more youthful feeling.

### Money Back Agreement

The very first dose of Cystex usually goes right to work helping the kidneys remove excess acids, poisons and wastes. And this cleansing purifying action in just a day or so may make you feel younger, stronger and better than in years. The iron clad money-back agreement on Cystex insures an immediate refund of all your money unless you are completely satisfied. You have everything to gain and nothing to lose under this positive money back offer. Get Cystex from your druggist today.



## STRAIGHT AHEAD

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stairs and returned with her father's rifle.

"I'm not going to lock myself anywhere. I'm going to stay here and stop this awful thing," she said.

He shook his head. "No."

"Yes, I'll stay here . . . with you. Nothing you can say will stop me."

They looked at each other, and in that look something passed between them that could never be recalled.

"All right," he said. "I've got a plan. May work, may not. Can't tell till we try."

Swiftly he outlined what he had in mind. She nodded, eagerly. "I'll do just as you say."

Already the riders could be heard outside. They were galloping up to the house.

WILLA hurried to the top of the stairs, carrying with her the rifle. The men were clattering across the porch and into the house. The girl's voice from the top of the stairs brought them up short.

"That's far enough, Joe Fallon. What do you want?"

The outlaw looked up at the determined little figure with the rifle. The weapon was not exactly trained on him, but it might very easily be.

"Get away from there, girl, or you'll get hurt," he ordered savagely, and he made as though to rush the stairway.

The rifle was lifted. "You'll be the one that gets hurt if you come any further," she warned.

Fallon knew she could shoot better than most men. She had killed a dozen deer and at least two bears, one of them a large silver tip. He was momentarily baffled. It would not do to kill or even to shoot at a woman, and least of all women one as popular as Willa Wylie.

"What's eatin' you, Willa?" he demanded irritably. "I won't stand for any foolin'. I'm here for business."

"Don't you make a mistake, Joe Fallon," she told him in a low voice. "I mean business, too. What is it you want?"

"We've come to find out whether that Stewart is still here. An' we're gonna find out. Don't you forget that for a minute. If Win has double-crossed us . . ."

There was no need to complete the threat. His manner sufficed.

"Is that all you want? To know that he's still here?"

"That's all." Fallon backed this with an oath.

She felt sure he was lying, that he had come to murder. But she chose to take him on his own ground. "Very well. He's here. I'll give you my word."

He barked a short incredulous laugh of contempt. "What you take me for? Yore word don't go with me, girl. I'm seein' for my own self."

She seemed to consider this. "All right. You may see him. Just you, not these men. But you must swear not to hurt him. He's sick, you know."

Fluently he swore it.

"You'll put down your rifle on the stairs there," she insisted.

A film of cunning rested in his eyes. "Yep, I'll do that, too," he promised.



"I'm so glad we got Bobby that detective outfit for Christmas."

"Then send your men out of the house. I'll not have them here."

Fallon told them to go, put his rifle against the wall, and mounted the stairway.

Near the moment of crisis, Willa grew panicky. "You won't hurt him," she begged. "Remember you've sworn it."

He had reached the landing. His cruel laugh hardly took the trouble to disguise the intended treachery. insolently and contemptuously he looked down at the weapon she carried. He caught the barrel, twisted it from her grasp, and flung it downstairs.

"I got a word to say to you, girl. But not right now. Business is business, like I done said before I came up. Which room?"

She pointed out the door, then made a gesture as though to bar the way. Nothing could have been more effective, for it was genuine. Her heart had suddenly misgiven her. It was fluttering with fear. In another moment guns might be flashing death.

Fallon drew a revolver, brushed her aside, turned the doorknob and entered the room. She followed, a step or two in the rear.

The outlaw looked around, hastily, suspiciously. Nobody lay on the bed, though the impress of a body was on the blankets. The door of the closet was ajar. Upon this he fastened his gaze. His arm crooked as the .45 lifted to position.

"Come outa that closet, you coyote," he snarled.

The closet door did not tremble. Fallon crouched, ready to fire. Then, of a sudden, his nerve centres seemed to freeze. For something cold . . . something that might have been the neck end of a bottle but was not . . . had been pressed against the back of his neck.

Goose quills ran up and down his back. He knew that the pressure of a finger would send him into eternity.

STICK up yore hands . . . quick," a hard voice ordered quietly.

Fallon did not put his hands up. He stood petrified, taken by surprise, his mind for the moment a blank, though automatically his instinct reacted to the situation by the collapse of the stomach muscles. He knew, before his brain registered the fact consciously, that he had walked into the trap. A slow man, except on the shoot, at which he functioned with lightning-like rapidity, he was accustomed to think heavily and not in swift flashes.

The cold circle pressed steadily against his neck.

"Don't make a mistake, Fallon. Put 'em up. But first . . ."

Fingers closed on the outlaw's hairy wrist and slid down to the hand which held the revolver.

"Gimme the gun."

Recognizing the voice, Fallon felt himself helpless. This man had fought him and his friends to an unexpected issue a few days before. The outlaw knew the deadly quality of this young fellow's brain and muscle co-ordination. Slowly, reluctantly, his fingers straightened. The revolver passed from the hand of one man to that of the other.

Fallon's numbed brain began to make explanations. Stewart must have been

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behind the door when he entered the room. The girl had betrayed him to his enemy, he realized. Would Stewart kill him? Would he dare, with two men from the Hole just below the window?

Evenly, without agitation, Stewart's voice went on. "You're takin' orders from me, Fallon. Don't forget that for a moment. If you do forget it . . . well, you won't live to regret it."

The outlaw growled something indistinguishable. He was surging with baffled hatred, shame, chagrin, and fear. The latter for the moment dominated.

"First off, Fallon, you'll step to the window an' tell yore friends to hit the trail because you're finishing this job alone."

"No." The big man growled it heavily.

"You heard me."

Their eyes clashed. Fallon considered the chances. Should he whirl around and grapple with this man? No use. He would be dead before he had turned. Or should he go to the window and shout to his friends to rescue him? Again no chance of getting away with it. Stewart would kill him instantly, would riddle him before the others reached the porch.

Fallon shuffled forward, not yet certain what he would do. He might fling himself through the window and take a chance of breaking his neck or of being shot as he dived to escape. But when he reached the window Fallon knew he did not have the particular quality of nerve required for the leap.

Stewart's soft compelling voice came from where he sat on the edge of the bed. "Say yore piece, Fallon, an' say it good," the young man advised. "Better get it across sincere because if yore friends ain't persuaded . . . if they should get inquisitive an' come up . . . why, that would sure be tough luck for you."

The big man from the Hole said his piece, not cheerfully, but with a conviction that he must yield to untoward circumstances. "You boys ride along," he growled. "Maybe I'll catch up with you, maybe I won't. If not, I'll meet you all at Park's Place. I'll 'tend to this job by myself."

"Finish it now an' come along with us," one of those below called up.

"Tell him you've got reasons for stayin'," ordered Stewart in a low voice.

"I'll stick around a while, boys," Fallon called.

One of those below laughed and said something in a murmur to the other. He could guess one sufficiently good reason for Joe's decision to stay. It happened to be the wrong reason, but that did not matter. He would not have minded staying with Willa in the big lonely house himself.

"All right, old-timer, we'll move along," he said.

CAME the sound of voices, of coarse laughter, and presently of creaking leather and horses' hoofs.

"That leaves just three of us, Mr. Fallon," said the man behind the revolver. "Sit down . . . on the chair over there. With yore hands on yore knees in front of you."

The outlaw hesitated. Was his enemy about to kill him? Had he better try to rush him and take a chance? But it would be no chance, only a form of suicide. Stewart would drop him with a bullet through his heart before he had taken two steps. He sat down.

The young man's cold searching eyes held fast to him. He had read the other's doubt, the struggle in his mind. "Right for once," he said. "You're using yore gumption."

"You devil!" Fallon growled between set teeth. "When I get you where I want you . . ."

"You don't seem to make the most of yore opportunities, Mr. Fallon," jeered the other man. "I'm beginning to wonder if you're not a false alarm as a bad man. You promise a lot, but I don't see you perform. I reckon this country will be askin' questions about you. It may get a notion you're a good deal of bluff."

The big ruffian writhed. He knew he was cutting a poor figure before the girl he intended to browbeat into marrying him. Somehow this slender smooth-faced boy seemed to have all the luck.

He, Joe Fallon, had always played his own hand, had always scoffed at the law and gone his own savage way. For the first time there came to him a chill premonition of impending disaster. The confidence oozed out of him, as the gas does from a burst balloon.

But he tried to save his face. "I don't know who you are, Mr. Stewart, if that's yore name. But I don't aim to be mean about you. The world's wide enough for you an' me both. I'll go my way; you go yours. Tha's a reasonable proposition, ain't it?"

Into the narrowed eyes of the man on the bed there came a look of derisive contempt. His foe was not only a villain. He was the sort of cold blooded murderer who wanted all the breaks.

"Not the proposition you an' yore outfit put up to me at Park's Place. No, sir, I'm not makin' any deals with you."

Willa spoke. This seemed to her foolhardy bravado. Here was a way out both for Stewart and for her own people, a compromise that might end the matter without bloodshed.

"But why not?" she asked Stewart. "Of course you'll accept his offer. You're not the one lookin' for trouble, are you?"

The man who answered her, his cold hard eyes still on the prisoner, did not seem the same friendly genial boy whom she had dragged out of the Valley of the Shadow. There was about him some quality of ruthless intent that almost made her shudder. It struck her for the moment as destructive.

"I'm makin' my own bargains, Miss Wylie," he told her.

She was puzzled and distressed. They had become friends, or so she had thought. Now he was flinging her friendship back in her face. Again she tried.

"Yes, but . . . I don't understand. If he's willing to leave you alone, if he will let you go away from here . . ."

"He won't," interrupted Stewart curtly. "The truth's not in him. He means to get me if he can. He's lying. What's the sense in wasting words with a wolf like him?"

Once more there came to them the sound of rapid hoof beats. Willa moved quickly to the window. Her voice lifted to a glad cry.

"It's father . . . and the boys. He's not hurt at all."

**CLIFF WYLIE** flung himself from the horse and strode into the house. His sons followed after they had fastened the horses in the buckboard to the hitching rack. The father took the stairs firmly and walked into the room where Stewart and his prisoner sat. Abruptly, at sight of them, he pulled up.

"What's doin'?" he demanded harshly. His daughter and Fallon answered at the same time, each eager to get the word in first. One said, "He came here with two other men to murder Mr. Stewart;" the other, "She betrayed me to this skunk."

It was to Fallon that Wylie spoke coldly. "Would you have any kick comin' if he bumped you off? You figured on fixin' a trap for him by gettin' the boys outta the way an' seems he beat you to it. Ain't that right?"

The dark blood beat into Fallon's face. He was not used to straight talk like this. "Don't get heavy with me, Cliff. I'll not stand for it," he said thickly.

The ranchman stood in the doorway, his steel-blue eyes fixed on the ruffian. "You'll stand for whatever I say, Fallon. I'm through with you. I won't have any more dealings with you. Understand?"

Fallon looked at him, a strong figure in the prime of life, slightly bowlegged from much riding, and he knew that this was final.

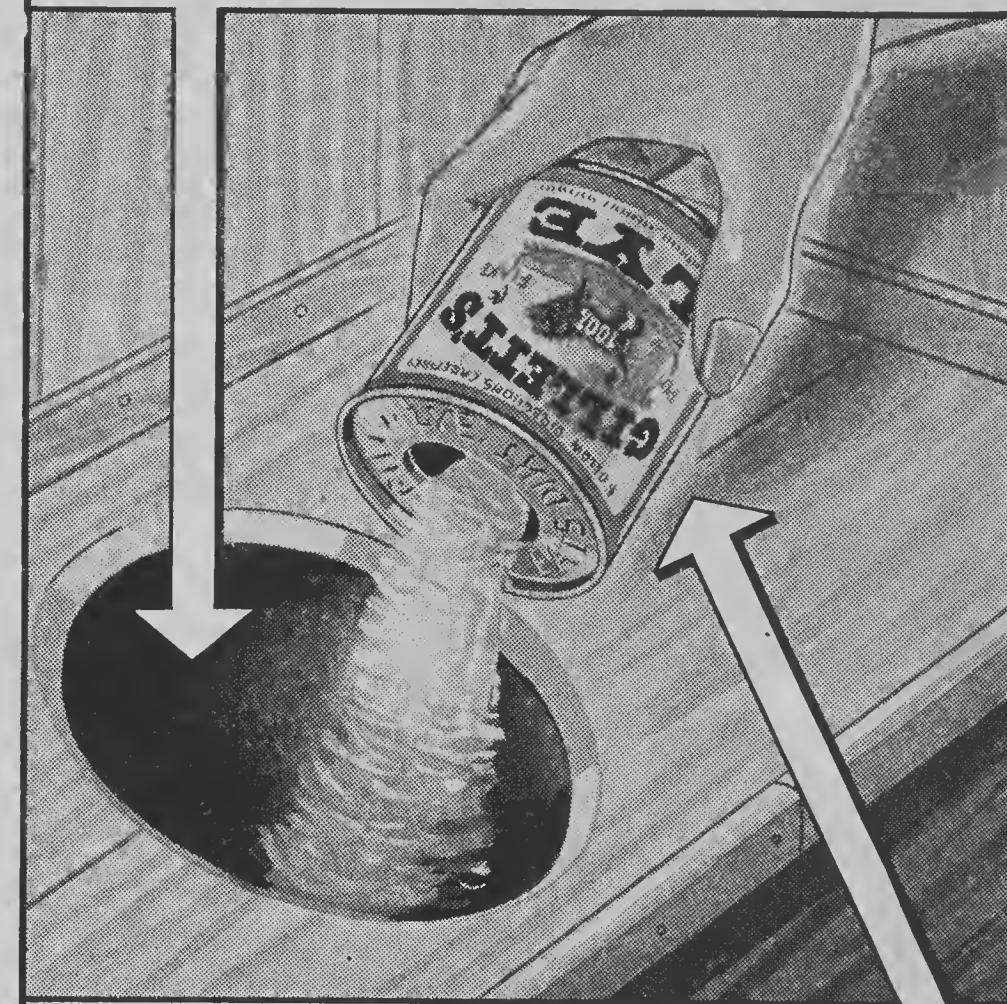
"Take care," he warned.

"I'll do just that, Fallon. You take care, too. I'll not stand for any devilmint."

"I get you." Fallon's voice was surly. "An' you're gonna be sorry for this one of these days. Don't you forget that. You and Win, too."

Wylie stepped aside to let him pass. The outlaw turned at the head of the stairs, his face a picture of frustrated malice. "Like I said, you an' Win both

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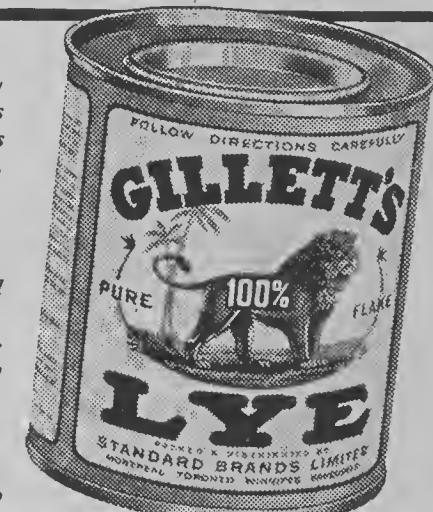
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... an' that girl of yours, too," he threatened.

He clumped down the stairs and out of the house. Those above waited until he had galloped away before any of them spoke.

It was Willa who broke the silence. "Oh, Dad, I was afraid you were hurt. Chet said so."

"One of Joe's tricks."

"Yes, I wouldn't let him upstairs till he'd promised he wouldn't . . . make trouble. But he didn't mean to play fair. He drew his revolver. Wes was behind the door and got the drop on him."

Cliff frowned down on the household guest. "He's usually behind the door from what I hear," he said.

"What do you mean?" she asked.

It was to Stewart that her father spoke. "I heard a story whilst I was in town, sir. Got it right straight. Are you a spy for Eaton?"

Stewart's gaze met the older man's fairly. He recognized that as his host Wylie had a right to demand the truth, and he knew that it would be impossible to present his case in such a way as to meet the older man's approval.

"No," he answered. "I'm not Eaton's spy."

"You're in his pay just the same."

"No, in the pay of the Cattleman's Association."

"Same thing. He runs it. You came up here to spy on us fellows in the hills an' get us in bad with the law if you could. Don't lie to me."

"I'm not lying to you. I'm a detective for the Cattleman's Association, if that's what you're driving at."

"You rigged up a game to play like you was being hunted for rustling Eaton's stock. You figured I would protect any fellow who was against Eaton."

"Yes," the young man assented.

"All the time what you wanted was to sneak in here so's you could get evidence to send us to the pen."

"Not you. The Martin's Hole gang," corrected Stewart.

"Yes, an' me, too, if you could have got the goods on me."

"All right," assented the other. "Have it yore own way. You, too, if it turned out you were a crook."

"I'd ought to turn you over to Fallon an' let him do like he wants with you. A dirty spy!"

"It's not too late," suggested the man on the bed. "You can patch up a peace with him by turning me over as a sacrifice. Why don't you?" This was said with the jaunty manner, almost insolent in its raffishness, that Cliff remembered as being in evidence the day he first met Stewart.

Willa interrupted, appealing to Stewart. "Why don't you explain? You must have some excuse."

He looked at her. "Does a man need any excuse for trying to bring to justice the Martin's Hole gang, that bunch of outlaws who have held up trains, rustled cattle, and terrorized this country for years?"

"No, but . . . for coming here, to my father's house."

THE cattle detective's face softened somewhat. "I'll say this. Soon as I saw you, Miss Willa, I knew yore father wasn't a thief. An' when I saw him. I was more sure of it."

Cliff gestured this aside as of no importance. "What kind of a man do you claim to be? You came to my house, makin' a play to have us hide you because you were up against it. You were gonna use me. I was to be yore friend, then by yore own story you were aimin' to throw the hooks into me if I turned out not to be a Sunday school teacher."

"You make me look like a cur, but that's not how I see it," replied Stewart. "We had a pretty good notion who we wanted. It doesn't take any son of a prophet to guess who were in the bad gang that's been so active. Point was to get evidence. So I staged my grandstand play of being chased here."

"Like I said, to spy on the folks that took you in an' befriended you," Cliff broke in bitterly.

"No. Down in the valley folks know Cliff Wylie pretty well. Nobody in the Association thinks you're a thief. They know better. But for reasons of yore own you've been friendly with the Martin's Hole gang. We figured this

### Honored by the King

THREE family names, prominent in United Grain Growers, were included in the King's New Year's honors list. Col. P. M. Abel, of the R.C.A.S.C. at Canadian headquarters in London was made an officer of the Order of the British Empire (Military Division). For over 20 years, up to January, 1941, Col. Abel was an editor of The Country Guide. He is deputy director of quartering and movement of Canadian troops in Britain.

Ernest Gerald Law, who was promoted to be Acting Electrical Lieutenant Commander in recognition of outstanding service, is the only son of R. S. Law, president of United Grain Growers. He graduated in Electrical Engineering just before the war broke out and has been stationed in Canadian Naval Establishment, England, since early in 1943.

FO. Emily Allison Patricia Griffin becomes a Member of the Order of the British Empire (Military Division). FO. Griffin went overseas in command of the first detachment of the Women's Division of the R.C.A.F. and is stationed at the headquarters of the R.C.A.F. in England.

would be a good headquarters for me if I could make out to get in here."

"I see," the rancher flung out. "You were figurin' on using me to bag my friends. Well, that doesn't go with me, Mr. Stewart, if that's yore name."

"That's my name, Mr. Wylie. Of course I don't expect you to see this just the way I do. These men have been a menace to this country's welfare. I was sent to break up the gang, and I mean to do it if I can."

"Not from my house you won't. Soon as it's convenient for you, Mr. Spy, I'll ask you to hit the trail."

Stewart answered instantly. "That'll be today, Mr. Wylie. Afraid I can't walk. How about gettin' yore buckboard to take me to town?"

Willa protested quickly to her father, in a low voice. "He's not fit to travel yet, Dad."

"I'm all right," the detective gave assurance.

"You're not. You know you're not."

The thought of his departure, of the danger he would be called upon to face, filled her with panic.

"I reckon he's the best judge of that, Willa," her father said sternly. Then, to his guest, "I'll arrange to get you to town, sir."

"If he goes to Mesa Joe Fallon's gang will get him," urged Willa. She had moved close to her father and looked up at him with eyes that asked for mercy.

He flashed on her a look of fierce refusal. "Not my business, girl. I've mixed in this enough already . . . too much. I'm through."

"But you wouldn't take him to town to be murdered," she insisted.

"I'm takin' him to town to get him away from here. After that I'm not responsible for what happens. I'm out of it."

"But you're not. You can't say that if . . . if you take him where you know he'll be killed."

He made a violent gesture of irritation. "I don't know a thing about it . . . except that I won't have him here clutterin' up my place. He says he's ready to go. What's it to you? Why are you always interferin' in things that ain't yore concern. Don't you try to run me, girl. I'll not stand for it."

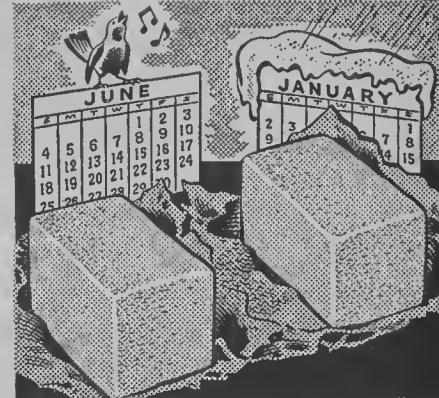
"I'm not trying to run you, Dad. You know I'm not. But you can't kick out a sick man as though he were a dog," she said with visible agitation.

"Don't worry about me, Miss Wylie," the unwanted guest said. "Far as his kickin' me out goes, why I wouldn't stay a minute longer than I have to. The wagon track is plain for me to follow, an' it leads to Mesa. Don't you worry. I'll make out fine. An' yore father is right. He's not responsible for any enemies I've made. That's my lookout."

Willa started to speak, then choked up in a sob. She turned and left the room.

Stewart did not see her again before he left.

(Concluded in next issue)



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## INFERNO

Continued from page 7

view; Smackover and Talco and Odessa; Wink and Odessa and Hobbs—Joe had seen them all.

He wanted to be in it, while he reeled from it. Out there men were working, matter-of-factly, as if a slipping pinch slide couldn't take a man's hand off in a second; as if the great rotary drive-chain never broke and lapped a man, multilated, to the derrick floor, as if a gasser never blew in with an explosion that obliterated everything.

He was reminded of his gnawing hunger, and presently picked out the yellow lights of a low, sheet-iron lunchstand, near by.

As he opened the greasy screen door a bell jangled overhead, startling him. Looking straight ahead, he climbed on a stool at the counter. At the end of the low, narrow room four or five men lounged, engrossed in talk. With them was the proprietor. He glanced at Joe and went on talking.

Joe waited, clearing his throat. A sign read: "Chili with Beans, 15c."

His reflection peered at him from the smoke-stained mirror. He never liked what he saw in a mirror. He was forty-five, and he appeared sixty-five. His eyes were shadowed, and something shameful and hesitant was in his whole manner. His grey face was spread with a network of fine purple veins. Liquor had done that. For a whole year after that nightmarish night six years ago, he had soaked it up by the quart, trying to forget. It didn't help, and he went off of the stuff, hardly taking a drink since. It was during that first awful year that the Kid had left him.

The fat proprietor came and leaned his thick arms on the counter. "What's-for-you?" he demanded gruffly.

"Bowl of chili with beans," Joe answered.

The man turned and ladled smoking chili from a deep vat, filling a thick crockery bowl with it. He held it up as he turned back, looking Joe over suspiciously. "You broke—and tryin' to panhandle me?"

Joe dug deep into his pocket for his lone quarter and displayed it in his palm.

Mollified, the other set the bowl before Joe, along with a plate of little round crackers, catsup, salt, and pepper. "Okey," he growled. "No offense. I ain't feedin' any more vags, that's all."

Joe sloshed catsup into the chili, crumbled in crackers, stirred it intently with a brassy-looking spoon.

With an effort, he finally blurted, "Know a young fellow working in this field, name of Ranier—Matt Ranier?"

"Matt Ranier?" the proprietor exclaimed so loudly that Joe choked a little. "Sure, I know him. Fine boy, Matt. Everybody likes him. You a friend of his?"

"Uh—used to know him pretty well several years ago."

"Well, now—if you're a friend of Matt's he'll be glad to see you. Matt's built that way. Heard him say he was going from here down to the Star Recreation Club to play a game or two of pool. If you want, I'll send my flunkies over after him for you."

"Oh—no—" Joe stammered hastily. "Thanks—I'll look him up soon as I've finished."

Joe ate on in silence, a chill creeping over him in spite of the peppery food he was taking into himself. He half-turned his back to the group of lounging men. Someone there was watching him. Anyway, he'd know now where to look for the Kid....

Joe couldn't hold back the rush of memories. . . . Always the Kid had seemed like a funny little miracle in his life. He'd been born just after the World War, while Joe was still in France. He was nearly two years old when Joe saw him for the first time. Two years old and a husky youngster, strong as a mule colt. He had looked wide-eyed at Joe and called him "Sojer-man." And how clumsy the Kid had been with his feet, always stumbling. But he'd laugh and pick himself up and go on. Joe wondered now if the Kid had ever outgrown getting his feet tangled up.

**A**HUNDRED little pictures of the Kid haunted him. The Kid had come to think Joe was a kind of god, and dogged his footsteps. After he'd got big enough he'd been with Joe and watched him work on lots of jobs. Nellie, while she'd lived, had never liked that, because of the danger. Joe just laughed at her.

Killing oil-well fires hadn't seemed so dangerous after mopping up machine-gun nests in France. It had come sort of naturally to Joe. You just walked straight up to the rolling black-and-red hell—or the great blue-white column of flame, if it was a gasser—carrying the cylinder of nitro! The streams of water from half a dozen fire hoses played around you and against your hot asbestos suit until you were a walking cloud of steam. You went on, peering through the peep-glass of the hood, seeking a rift in the wall of flame; on until you were at the edge of the crater and could see the red hole from which the fire spouted. And then you threw, and whirled and ran back, falling flat to the ground before the explosion hurled you there. It seemed plain idiocy now to think he'd ever done those things; but in those days, before that hideous night in the Kilgore field, he had never thought to be afraid.

He hurriedly finished his bowl of chili, slid from the stool, and made for the door. But a man came from the group at the end of the room, an oil-field worker in khakis and leather jacket. Joe knew he was the one who had been watching him.

"Say, you're Joe Ranier, ain't you? I was sure you was when I heard you askin' for Matt. I saw you put out that heller they had at Hog Creek in 1925. Man, I never seen anything like it—that was the partiest—!"

"You—you're mistaken, mister," Joe cut in desperately. "I'm—my name's Smith."

"Don't try to kid me," the man said, sticking out his hand. "I want to shake with you. Joe Ranier—!"

Joe backed away, groping behind him for the handle of the screen door. "I—I tell you you've made a mistake. I never

Beer parlors and abstract offices, domino halls and notaries public, hamburger stands with their smell of onions and hot grease, dance halls with radios and coin music machines blaring harshly into the night. New neon signs flashed, "Eat," "Dine—Dance," "Beer," "Whisky." Hastily built frame buildings jammed against one another endlessly, broken only by the half-dozen old brick houses that had comprised Dunway before oil was discovered there.

**T**HEN directly ahead Joe saw the crude board sign, "Star Recreation Club." And he began to tremble, his senses racing.

By some miracle there was a narrow space between the pool hall and the next building, and Joe shuffled into the passage. He found a window and peered in.

Three pool tables were jammed into the small room. Men sat along the walls or stood crowded around the players, watching the games. A man with a green eyeshade hustled among them, racking balls, ringing the cash register. The voices were loud and good-natured; smoke filled the place, making a haze around the lights and the rafters.

Then Joe saw the Kid. He was leaning over the middle table, sighting along his cue, making a careful shot. Joe's fingers tightened on the sill as he stared in.

The Kid looked even taller than six feet. Maybe six-feet-two, Joe guessed. And he had filled out amazingly. He had on good clothes and they fit him right, and he knew how to wear them. And his mouth still quirked up at one corner when he grinned. The Kid had Nellie's eyes and funny grin. But the rest of his face was Joe's—Joe's as it had been six years ago.

Joe concentrated on listening, and the Kid's voice came to him, plainly as though those other men in there were silent.

"Seven ball in the side pocket!" the Kid cried.



"Willie! Quit teasing the cat and come to bed!"

was in Hog Creek in my life. My name's Smith—"

The squat man looked incredulously at Joe's face. "Well, I'll be damned. I would of swore—"

The jangling bell cut off the words as Joe jerked open the door and bolted through. But Joe could not help hearing what came out of the open window after him.

"No wonder he wouldn't admit it," said one of the men contemptuously. "Ain't you ever heard about Joe Ranier, Bill? In Kilgore in '34 he went yellow as a—"

Joe fled, mercifully saved the obscene comparison. His heart pumped furiously again. That was a narrow squeak! He hoped word wouldn't get around, and the Kid hear about it. He'd get out of town quick—just as soon as he got a look at the Kid.

He pushed and jostled among oil-field crowds that milled up and down the main street, his head down and his hat pulled low to hide his face. He shrank now from accosting anyone and asking where the Star Recreation Club was located. He'd have to find it unaided. The hectic scene was one long familiar to him.

the surging crowds, turning to head up the street.

**A**ND then—between two ticks of a watch, while time seemed to halt—things happened in a swift and unreal avalanche of sensations that momentarily stunned Joe out of all feeling. First, there was a dull and tremendous and cosmic-seeming detonation that shook and vibrated the air, while windows rattled and crashed out. The roar that followed shocked and dulled the ear-drums—a roar that never stopped, nor rose higher, nor waned, but kept up a monotonous volume of sound, which the senses could scarcely bear. Cutting through and above the roar, sirens wailed to a frenzied crescendo. And on the southeast edge of town a weird light rose up, and the town became as bright as though a morning sun had suddenly burst from the black night sky.

Simultaneously a thousand people went mad. Men yelled themselves hoarse, women screamed. The dread word went up: "Fire!" And voice after voice caught it and flung it up and down the street.

Joe could not quell his sick and panicky feeling. His one impulse was to get as far from the fire as he could. He ran, struggling against the stream of humanity. Out of the wild hysteria of sound a man's words came coherently to him: "—Number Four Casey—burning—blew in with gas and oil—exploded—whole crew killed—"

No one paid any heed to Joe, and after a while he drew up in the doorway of a closed building.

The mob hysteria around him began to wane. Curiously, all the mad exodus still had not emptied the streets; and now the crowd backed and filled. News from the burning well ran through them like a fire in dry grass. All other sounds, in the awful roar, seemed tiny, like voices in a gale.

Whatever forces constituted the law in Dunway were turning back the milling crowd and putting a wide cordon around the blaze. Joe Ranier knew exactly what was happening there, just as though he stood on the scene. Galvanized iron shields would be quickly erected, from behind which firemen would direct streams of water on the fire. Draglines would be rushed in to pull away the wrecked derrick and every scrap of metal which could be hooked onto. Red-hot metal had re-ignited many a well fire after it had been snuffed out. The capper, that bunglesome block of steel, with diverting pipes and remote-controlled choke valves, would be lowered over the casing head on its long crane, in an attempt to choke down the column of flame.

All these would be done quickly. Oil towns were now equipped and organized to fight a well fire, unlike the early days, when every fire caught them unprepared.

Finally Joe moved uncertainly out of the doorway and started making his way down the street. He walked warily. He heard other news. The Number Four Casey was jam against the town and the wind was out of the south. A tank farm with thousands of gallons of stored oil was just east of the well. Unless the blaze was killed quick, that tank farm and this booming town of pine shacks would go—and go like tinder, once they caught.

**A**ND now a peculiar, crushed silence was on the crowd, and the look on men's faces changed from excitement to despair. Joe read it plainly. And he strained his ears to learn that new ill tidings there were. Words passed along the crowd, and Joe heard: "She's cratered!"

They had cause for despair. When a well craters it spreads from one great, upspouting jet of flame to a boiling, rolling pit of it, perhaps twenty or thirty feet wide. No hope of a capper subduing it now—or of water, or steam, or of chemical foam. Shooting with nitroglycerin was the only hope.

And then, from down the street, like an overtaking nemesis, a shout went up and out, and Joe heard his own name yelled: "Joe Ranier! Joe Ranier's in town!"

He fled, almost numb with terror. His mind raced back to the squat, red-whiskered man who had recognized him in the lunchstand. Of course he had reported it. And now men were yelling for him. Hadn't Joe Ranier once been

"Dollar you don't make it," one of his opponents challenged promptly.

The Kid called the bet and bent to make the shot. Joe saw the ball roll home, and the Kid came up grinning again, his eyes kind of dancing.

"Ten ball in the corner," he cried. Again the Kid made his shot, then boasted, "Watch me clear the table!"

Two more balls rolled into pockets. The Kid always was a marvel with his hands. Hands like that would make an ace driller some day before long. But when the Kid started around to the other side of the table his feet seemed to tangle, and he stumbled, nearly falling. He laughed, and the Kid's partner said, "Good thing you don't play this game with your feet, Matt."

They finished their game and the Kid racked his cue. A waiting quartet of new players took their places around the pool table, while the Kid and his friends shoved through the crowd and out the front door into the peopled street.

Slowly Joe turned, trudging along the narrow passage. Tense inner excitement was giving way to an empty sadness. But he was glad he'd got to see the Kid. He'd get out of town now, soon as a freight ran. He pushed again out into

the man everyone called for when a well had to be shot? He had to get away. He had to hide. How could he stand up to men's faces and tell them he would not go into that fire, when their whole town, their congested field, was threatened?

The shouting overtook him and passed over him and went up and down the street: "Calling Joe Ranier! Calling Joe Ranier!"

A narrow, black space between two buildings yawned beside him, and he dodged into it. He ran its length and came out into an alley, a foul and littered oil-town alley, stinking wetly of refuse and garbage. The voices came fainter, but still pursued him, and he could not stop. He stumbled over broken bottles and tin cans, going to his knees. He knelt there, panting, listening. Near by, out on the street, the loud-speaker of one of the doorway radios had been cut in, and a voice was blaring over and over:

"Joe Ranier! Joe Ranier—two thousand dollars to shoot the Number Four Casey—calling Joe Ranier!"

They'd never find him here. Let them call him. Let them plead, and curse him. They thought they could goad him into that job. But they didn't know. They'd never been through what he had. Did they think he could forget that well in Kilgore in '34—and the slip he had made there?

He tried to drive the picture out of his mind, but it came back and came back. Three times he'd shot the Kilgore well, and three times it had caught again from the red-hot lip of the casing head. And then . . . Sam Fields had gone in with him. Sam Fields was a good man. He had worked with Joe before. Sam had to carry a water line right up to the crater, while Joe carried the nitro. Joe was to give Sam time to get the stream right on the hot casing head, to cool it down before the explosion. In the great gusts of steam they couldn't see each other. They were to time themselves by counting seconds. But when Joe saw the red flames about the nitro cylinder in his hands a thought flashed in his mind: This stuff goes off at three hundred and sixty degrees! And he had thrown—without counting. The explosion had come while Sam still stood at the edge of the crater with the nozzle in his hands.

People hadn't thought Joe was the one who had failed. Joe Ranier had never failed. They thought Sam Fields had died by his own mistake. But Joe knew. And he'd never been able to shoot another well. He'd gone yellow.

And then, out on the street, the tenor of the voices changed. Men were shouting again, but this time they were cheering. It was a long time before Joe could make out any of the words and piece them together.

"Matt Ranier!" he heard finally. "Matt's gonna shoot the well!"

Joe couldn't believe it. Not the Kid. Not the Kid walking into that wall of flame. But he knew it was so. The Kid knew how, from the many times he'd watched Joe. And it was like him to volunteer for the job that his father hid from.

Joe cried out in his anguish. The Kid's feet! Those stumbling feet that couldn't walk ten yards without tangling. The Kid on those feet with that cylinder of nitro in his hands!

He was running down the alley, stumbling over litter, getting up, running on again, while the roar of the well grew louder and louder in his ears.

THE space around the well for two hundred yards back was roped off and guarded, but the crowd thronged against the ropes. Joe pushed his way ruthlessly through them, and brought up panting against the cordon.

It was a scene he'd looked upon many times before. The heat was like a furnace blast, even at this distance, and the light was bright as noonday and hurt the eyes.

Four or five sheet-iron shields had been thrown up, and behind these men huddled, working the water lines until a dozen or more streams laid down a barrage of water that instantly turned to steam all around the inferno's base.

Joe ducked under the rope. Instantly a hand grasped his shoulder and yanked him roughly back. "Here, you!" a voice snarled, and Joe looked into the thick

## THE COUNTRY GUIDE

face of a man with a badge on his vest. "Let go!" Joe cried. "I'm Joe Ranier!"

The officer swore, and Joe twisted away. He ran across the hot area, making his way behind shields, stepping over swollen water lines, his eyes searching ahead of him.

He saw them, huddled behind a shield. The Kid had pulled on the floppy asbestos pants, and men were helping him to buckle on the asbestos overboots. The Kid looked up and saw Joe. Joe read a moment of bewilderment in his face, and then the Kid grinned. "Hello, Dad!"

"Get out of 'em," Joe ordered. "You're not wearing those clothes. I'm taking this load in."

The Kid stood up. "You can't do it. You're too old—and shaky. Your nerves are shot." But when he stared at Joe's set face he didn't say another word, but began shedding the outfit.

**M**EN helped Joe put the things on. The baggy pants, the coat and gloves, the overboots, the big hood. Joe took the deadly cylinder in his hands and stepped out from behind the shield; and blinding light smote his eyes.

His old mastery of the job came back. He was like an automaton. Back of him the crowds were yelling, maybe cheering by now. In front of him the well screamed. But you didn't hear any of that. Streams of water hit you in the back and you braced yourself against them. Other streams played on and about you and you walked through a white featherbed of hot steam, clutching tight to that cylinder. Fog formed on your peep-glass, but somehow you managed to see through. There was the smoke and then the fire, boiling out at you, tongues of flame licking up at the cylinder. The sound deafened you, so that you hardly heard anything. You went into the flame, and the suit got blistering hot and steamed, but you didn't think of that. You only watched for the spouting casing head that bred this inferno.

The fire enveloped him, swallowing him up and blinding him, but he kept going. Then at last there was a rift, and he saw the column of gas and oil at the pit's centre, and he threw the cylinder.

He turned and ran back, timing himself, taking as much distance as he dared, and then plunged flat on the sloppy ground.

A great gust went over him like the passing of a tornado, and he lay spent a moment. Steam was all around him, but he could see through it, and the

night was no longer light as day, but dark. The well was out.

The Kid and others ran out to meet him and hustle him away, and he threw off the hood, and they carried him on beyond the ropes. The Kid didn't try to say anything, for he knew that Joe was still deaf. He shoved men out of the way and helped Joe get out of the rest of the suit, then grinned and offered Joe a cigarette.

Presently Joe's hearing came back. The Kid had his arm about his shoulders, walking him farther from the well. A path cleared through the crowd for them.

"Let's get out of this mob where we can talk," the Kid said. "I'm glad you came to Dunway, Dad. You'll like it here. It's a good field—and I can get you a job on any crew around here."

Joe began to feel things again. And he felt good inside, like a man just getting well after a long sickness. He had come up out of the dark shadow of fear, and he didn't believe he'd ever go back into it. The crowd around him was yelling and cheering. And it seemed to Joe that above them all there rang a chorus of phantom voices, maybe old-timers from Ranger and Desdemona and Hog Creek and other fields of the past.

They seemed to be shouting, "Here comes Joe Ranier!"

## RE-STARTING EUROPEAN AGRICULTURE

*Continued from page 9*

supplied. "But this will not suffice," continues Sir John; "importation of live animals would be a solution if it were practical. There may, and we hope there will be, a certain amount of disgorgement from Germany, both of pedigree and utility animals that have been taken from the occupied countries, but it seems unlikely that we can reckon on much from Europe. Any immediate increase in Europe's cattle population could come only from overseas. Good useful Holsteins and Ayrshires could be drawn from Canada and the United States. It is not possible to say how many, but even if the figure is put at one million, which would be high, it still replaces only a fraction of the total loss. But there is the further difficulty of transportation. A cargo boat of the ordinary 5,000- to 8,000-ton size, could

carry some 600 to 700 head of cattle, so that more than 1,500 journeys would be needed to transport our hypothetical million animals.

"It seems safe to assume, therefore, that the re-establishment of the herd of milk cattle must come mainly from natural increase. But that is a very slow business: it takes at least two years to produce a new dairy cow, and only half the calves born are females. Cows vary widely in their capacity to yield milk, and it is well known that this quality is derived from the bull. So, from the outset, bulls with a good record of high yielding daughters should be selected for replenishing the herds. The United Kingdom could furnish some of these. Fortunately, the modern method of artificial insemination enables good bulls to be used very economically and to produce numbers of good yielding calves from animals they have never seen; these bulls can be kept at control stations and the semen distributed by motor car or by airplane over a large number of farms.

"However carefully it is done, it seems unlikely that the cattle population of Europe can be restored in less than from six to eight years. During the whole of this time dried milk and other dairy produce will have to be sent into Europe."

After discussing the restoration of the horse population, where the difficulties are greater still than with cattle, he goes on to deal with other farm animals.

"Under good conditions, the sheep population should recover more rapidly than the cattle, but in poor and hard conditions such as will certainly obtain in southwestern Europe, recovery is bound to be slow. It has been estimated at from six to ten years.

"Pigs, however, multiply much more quickly. In spite of the drastic reduction we need not assume more than two years as the time needed for restoration to pre-war numbers . . . The case for the pig would be irresistible but for the unfortunate circumstance that, of all the animals on the farm, pigs are most like ourselves in food requirements. They take grain, potatoes, skim milk, fish and meat. They thus stand in sharp contrast with sheep and cattle, which take grains, straw and other coarse fodders of no use to us. So when human food is scarce pigs are not encouraged, or at least not beyond what can be fed on waste materials unfit for human consumption.

"The same difficulty arises in the case of poultry where again the food requirement is largely the same as for human beings and so, in spite of their value as producers of high class protein and, tragically enough, in spite of the great need of high class protein, it will not be possible greatly to encourage poultry keeping, at any rate until the human food position becomes clearer. It will, however, be essential to furnish the peasants with some pigs and poultry as early as possible so as to insure speedy re-establishment of their holdings and full utilization of any waste material."

SIR John then devotes some attention to the problems of resettlement: "The immediate starting up of agriculture is only a small part of the task. Agriculture is a long-term business. The farmer must know not only what he is to grow this year, but also what the year after, and the year after that, so it is necessary to think ahead and decide what is the object of the agriculture. In the first year it must produce calories. But is that to continue permanently? There are two purposes at which European agriculture might aim: highest standard of nutrition for the people; or maximum degree of self-sufficiency for the country or group of countries. . . . In a self-sufficing Europe the inhabitants restrict themselves to what they can produce and go without the rest, or accept instead products for which one must use the German name ersatz because the English language does not produce a sufficiently disagreeable word. . . .

"Representatives of the occupied countries in Great Britain have expressed their views. They do not want this low standard of life and they recognize that it leads to chaos, even to war. They prefer to aim at the highest possible standard of nutrition. The phrase 'freedom from want' has reverberated through Europe and aroused among its

## Farm Production Objectives for 1944

Following are the principal 1944 production objectives set at the Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Conference held in Ottawa, December 6th to 8th:

	1943	1944	Per cent change	
Grains and Hay:	acres	acres		
Wheat . . . . .	17,488,000	17,488,000	No change	
Oats . . . . .	15,407,000	16,377,000	6% increase	
Barley . . . . .	8,397,000	8,500,000	1% "	
Rye . . . . .	576,000	576,000	No change	
Mixed grains . . . . .	1,463,000	1,760,000	20% increase	
Hay and clover . . . . .	9,815,000	9,815,000	No change	
Alfalfa . . . . .	1,544,000	1,544,000	" "	
Oilseed Crops:				
Flaxseed . . . . .	2,947,800	1,890,600	36% decrease	
Soybeans . . . . .	50,400	55,100	9% increase	
Rape seed . . . . .	4,051	10,000	147% "	
Sunflower Seed . . . . .	29,000	50,000	72% "	
Meat Animals:	Numbers			
Hogs . . . . .	7,000,000	7,000,000	No change	
Beef cattle . . . . .	1,100,000	1,177,600	6% increase	
Calves . . . . .	645,000	662,800	3% "	
Sheep and lambs . . . . .	840,000	880,500	5% "	
Dairy Products:	1lb.			
Total milk . . . . .	17.4 billion	17.4 billion	No change	
Creamery butter . . . . .	313,724,000	303,276,000	3% decrease	
Factory cheese . . . . .	158,672,000	148,390,000	7% "	
Evaporated milk . . . . .	178,000,000	178,000,000	No change	
Condensed whole milk . . . . .	24,000,000	24,000,000	" "	
Whole milk powder . . . . .	16,800,000	16,800,000	" "	
Skim milk . . . . .	24,000,000	24,000,000	" "	
Eggs and Poultry:	doz.	335,000,000	No change	
Chicken and fowl . . . . .	lb.	224,881,000	11% increase	
Turkeys . . . . .	lb.	29,151,000	No change	
Other Products:	acres			
Potatoes . . . . .	532,700	558,980	5% increase	
Leafy green vegetables . . . tons	230,343	230,343	No change	
Root vegetables . . . tons	318,165	318,165	" "	
Fibre flax . . . . .	acres	35,000	48,000	37% increase

stricken people hopes and desires that we who have never suffered as they can only dimly apprehend. But this policy of abundance means that each region must produce the foods it can grow best and exchange its products freely with other regions. There is no place for restriction on trade in foods. It is, in fact, the old policy of peace and plenty that Bright and Cobden advocated so long ago.

"If this were adopted, the farmers of Europe would aim at producing high quality protein and protective foods, taking calorie production in their stride but not aiming specifically at it. They would import from the great primary producing regions of the world the additional calories and protein needed for themselves and their animals. After the first year of calorie production their efforts would be diverted to these more profitable activities."

Sir John then deals with the pattern of country life in Europe after the war. He points out that though there were large estates in Poland, Hungary and elsewhere, most of Europe's agricultural land was in small holdings. Studies have shown that small farms gave greater returns per acre and for the money expended, employed more men per 100 acres and paid more in wages than the large ones. There would be a case for the large farm if Europe were adopting the new order and going in widely for grain production. But the production of protective foods, involving as it does, numbers of animals of various kinds, is well suited to the small farm. He describes the Russian system of collectivization, showing that the combination of collectives, with each worker having his own small piece of land and his own animals, may be suited to the large rolling plains of Russia, but these conditions do not obtain in any other European country.

REPRESENTATIVES of the occupied countries have stated very clearly that they do not want large farms, whether privately owned, state owned or collective. Agrarian reform has been busy for some years breaking up big estates into small peasant holdings. There is a very real land hunger; the innate desire to own a piece of land, usually a particular piece of land.

"The history of collectivization in U.S.S.R.," he continues, "is a clear warning against forcing-on the peasants any scheme of amalgamation that they do not like. For the first few years of collectivization the numbers of animals fell drastically. There were several causes, one was the dislike of some of the peasants for the new scheme. Then came the compromise of 1935 and 1936, which allowed the peasants their own bit of land and their own animals and the number of animals began to go up. Unfortunately, the war came before one could see the full results. We could not, however, tolerate the possibility of peasant disturbances in Europe after the war, and so we must accept the decision to re-establish small peasant farms."

He expresses his belief that the only hope of successful establishment of peasant holdings lies in the development of a strong co-operative movement. Co-operative societies could not only buy for the peasant, finance useful operations and warn severely against useless ones, but also take over the peasants' products, grade and process them, pack them properly and sell them through expert salesmen who know the best markets and can obtain the highest prices, thus assuring the peasant the maximum return for his labor.

Sir John concludes: "We, too, shall have our part to play. In his extremely interesting 'Life of Marlborough,' Mr. Churchill shows how in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries Great Britain twice saved Europe by heading the Allied Nations against a power seeking to dominate the whole continent. Twice the war was won, but twice the peace was lost because we withdrew too soon. Modern history has made the lesson more emphatic; nations cannot live in isolation. On all grounds—economic, political and moral—we must in the reconstruction of Europe render all possible help and continue to play our part in the years of peace to which the nations are looking forward with such ardent longing."

## SCOUTING AROUND

*Continued from page 12*

been bearing regularly. Mr. Farnalls also finds that Hibernal bears every year for him, although rabbits destroyed most of the lower branches. Blushed Calville bears well, but is not only tender but subject to sun scald.

Not much success has been had with Colorado Blue spruce. Three of them failed, and the attempt was more or less given up. A very interesting flower garden was being looked after by Mrs. McBride, a daughter of Mr. Farnalls, whose husband was in active service. In addition to the usual kinds, there were some lovely big pansies, peonies and roses, of which Mr. Farnalls is very fond.—H.S.F.

### The Loveridges of Norton Court Farm

IT would be interesting to know how many of the very early producers of milk to our western city fluid milk markets are still in the business. Gordon Loveridge, Grenfell, Saskatchewan, whom I called to see early in August, operates a farm from which milk has been shipped to Regina consistently for nearly thirty-one years. For the first fourteen years milk was shipped in the name of his father, A. J. Loveridge, and since 1927, when Gordon took over the management of the farm, it has been going to the same market, and practically to the same distributor.

Mr. Loveridge, senior, who is now eighty years old and has retired to the town of Grenfell, came to Winnipeg from Welland County in Ontario, in 1882. He was a leader in the Primitive Methodist settlement which became known as Pheasant Hill Colony. There was a cheese factory in Pheasant Hill, but Mr. Loveridge did not work with a recognized dairy breed until he homesteaded in 1884 and began to develop his herd. He later began to breed Ayrshire cattle, and these continued to be used on the farm until his son, in 1927, bought some Holsteins. A few more were obtained in 1930, and the present herd has been bred up from them, until, in 1942, the 12 or 13 cows and heifers averaged 432 pounds of butterfat; and also scored well up in the open competition carried on each year under the auspices of the Saskatchewan Dairy Association. Gordon Loveridge, incidentally, is an advocate of good dairy sires, and points to a particularly good sire which he obtained in 1933, and from which nearly every heifer secured produced more than her dam.

Mr. Loveridge is a graduate in Agriculture from the University of Saskatchewan; has been reeve of the municipality for the past two years, in addition to serving on the council for additional years; and has served several years as director of the Saskatchewan Dairy Association, as well as being a past president of that organization. More recently, he has been appointed a director on the reorganized Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Limited. For years his herd of good Holstein cattle have been on regular test with the Dairy Branch of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, and this testing seems to be paying dividends in the gradual increase of the herd average.

Grenfell is just about on the eastern fringe of the area from which the city of Regina secures its milk supply, nearly all of which comes from east and north of the city, Grenfell being 84 miles east. There were times in the history of Norton Court farm when Grenfell milk was not very welcome in Regina, and the experiences of distant milk shippers were not very happy. Times, however, are gradually changing, and with the increase of organization among milk producers, the improved public health regulations and the gradual elimination of dairy herds which are not prepared to meet all of the requirements of city milk supply, the men who have stayed with the business may hope to reap some reward for their long-suffering and



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## THE COUNTRY GUIDE

patience. Gordon Loveridge is president of the Regina Milk Producers Association, which was revived about two years ago, and now has about 92 of the 110 shippers as members. An indication of the change in milk shipping is the fact that the number of shippers was formerly 237, but with the development of larger herds, and some preference to older and larger shippers, the number has markedly dropped.

The Loveridge farmstead reminds one of an Ontario farmstead in many respects. The house, protected by trees, the large barn, silo, milk house, and the dairy herd are very reminiscent of many farms of both eastern and western Ontario. Alfalfa has been grown continuously on this farm since about 1908, when one acre of Turkestan alfalfa was first seeded between the shelter belt and the snow trap. This patch was down for eleven years, and since that time the 2½ acres, this includes have been in alfalfa continuously with the exception of one year, although it has been broken four times. This year seven tons was secured from the first cutting. Since 1941 about 12 or 13 acres of alfalfa has been grown, and a dam was partly constructed at the time of my visit to provide for spring flood irrigation. Mr. Loveridge was congratulating himself on having sixteen loads of alfalfa in the barn that was harvested in the pink of condition.

Some sweet clover is also grown. Two tons per acre were secured this year following a 63-bushel barley crop in 1942. The farm has also grown corn for thirty years and the silo was built in 1924. Formerly, corn and sunflowers were both grown, but the sunflowers were discarded because the corn was found to be fairly sure when grown from Manitoba seed. Even in 1937, a year of extremely poor crops in Saskatchewan, there was enough corn for one feed of silage daily for the cows. Ordinarily, from twenty to twenty-five acres of corn are grown each year. This year, however, only half of the usual amount was sown, but as a result of inferior seed, plus a cold, wet spring, the corn didn't do well, and it was plowed up in July and the land seeded to oats.

Mr. Loveridge doesn't plan on buying any feed except possibly some bran and linseed meal. When silage is available, no conditioner is needed, and alfalfa hay provides practically all of the protein required. Mono-calcium phosphate is fed regularly in recommended amounts.

At the time of my visit the Regina milk price was \$2.58 per hundred pounds of 3.6 milk. Mr. Loveridge considered this to be a fair price, but thought that the winter price would have to be increased a little on account of the increased cost of labor, machinery, and replacements, as well as higher priced grain.—H.S.F.

### The Versatile Combine

THE combine is a versatile machine. Its repertoire includes most any crop you can grow, for grain or seed. On field peas and sunflowers it did a good job last fall.

Elmer G. Langtry, of Myrtle, Man., had about a quarter section of sunflowers part Sunrise and part Mennonite Giant. He had them custom combined. The heads faced east and the crop was cut one way, moving west, taking two rows at a time. Certain adjustments of the machine were necessary.

First the reel had to be removed. It could handle the Sunrise after a fashion, but not the other. It was snapping the heads off and throwing them around. The man on the combine had a stout stick to tip back such of the stalks as leaned the wrong way, so they would fall on the carrier canvas.

A dividing board was rigged up to keep the heads from falling off the table. At the bottom it consisted of three 10-inch boards of resawn lumber, which is less than half an inch thick. Above this was two feet of strong galvanized iron, which gave a total depth of 4½ feet. The illustration shows how it was attached.

Mr. Langtry's experience is that to make a clean job, and not crack the seed up too much, a rasp-bar cylinder is much superior to a toothed cylinder for combining sunflowers. Furthermore,

he says, the cylinder must be almost the full width of the cutting bar. The heads then feed into the cylinder better. The seeds are rubbed off the heads, which come through almost intact. There were some seeds left in the centre of some of the heads but the loss on this account was not very serious, about five per cent.

Sunrise has slimmer stalks and smaller heads and cuts easier but is harder to thresh. The machine can travel faster when cutting it than when cutting Mennonite Giant. About ten acres a day was the maximum when combining Mennonite Giant. As much as 15 acres a day had been attained with the other variety. The cylinder is run at 400 r.p.m. for Sunrise and 600 for Mennonite Giant, as compared with 1,100 for wheat.

The combine, of course, is hauled by a tractor with power take-off. The stubble is left three feet high. It's no use pretending that the crop isn't hard on a combine. It is. And it's tough on the canvas. Three days' good cutting and the canvas starts to go. An experiment was made in protecting it with plain canvas cloth tacked on but if a new canvas can be bought it doesn't pay to bother with makeshifts. The slow rate of cutting and the frequent renewal of the canvas runs the cost of combining up to from \$7.00 to \$9.00 an acre.

### Combining Field Peas

Last season 4,000 acres of boiling peas were grown on the Portage Plains to be shipped to Old Quebec for making pea soup. The biggest grower was Allen McCallister, reeve of the R.M. of Portage la Prairie. Including those who grew peas for him, he had control of 2,700 acres. He put about 50,000 bushels through his cleaning and bagging plant. The peas were harvested with combines.

The day we were there we saw three combines running, all 6-foot cut with rasp-bar cylinders. Each will do about an acre per hour. The speed of the cylinders was kept down to 350-400 r.p.m. It was a good clean job, with little or no loss except that, where the outside shoe ran over the mat of pea growth, some were shelled and left on the ground.

On each machine six pick-up guards or fingers are used. They lift the mat so that the knives cut the peas without shattering the pods. At the outside grain divider the shoe holds the mat down and the knife therefore makes a clean job of cutting it, though, as mentioned above, a few peas are threshed out.

A special kind of finger has to be used. In the old-fashioned pea harvester attachment to a mower a round steel bar was carried behind the cutting bar. On this the fingers were attached, so that the points could move freely up and down according to the unevenness of the ground. They were guided by a slot which slipped over the points of the guards. No such round steel bar can be used on a combine because the mat of peas is not laid on the ground but is carried by the canvas to the cylinder. A modification has therefore been adopted.

On a combine two patterns of fingers are used. One type is simply spot-welded on the points of the common guards. It is made and attached by the blacksmith. It runs forward to a point and then a round rod curves backward and upward and raises the mat. The rear end of this rod is free, so that there is nothing for the mat of peas to catch on.

The other, and stronger type, bolts on to the cutting bar. It curves forward over the knife and has a slot which slips over the point of a guard. Then it runs forward to a point. As with the other type, a round ¾-inch rod then slopes upward and backward, with the end free in the air.

Serrated knives are used. The hopper holds 20 bushels and is unloaded into an elevated portable bin described in the Workshop Department of this issue. From there the peas were trucked to the cleaning and bagging plant. They were shipped in sacks, running from 100 to 120 pounds each. The price cleaned and sacked was \$1.50 a bushel and the yield somewhere between 20 and 25 bushels per acre. Some peas on the Portage Plains got a touch of hail this year. The varieties grown are Dashaway and Arthur. The bin of Dashaway peas that I saw were as uniform as BB shot.—R.D.C.



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# THE COUNTRY BOY AND GIRL

## Kitty Kat

By MARY GRANNAN

**K**ITTEN KAT sat gloomily on the mat in front of the fireplace. He had good reason for his gloominess . . . or so he thought. No one had paid any attention to him for days. Of course he'd got his dish of fresh milk, and of course he'd gotten his favorite little fish. It was just that no one had played with him. You see, it had snowed. It had snowed that lovely kind of snow that makes snowballs, snowhouses and snowmen.

"Mum," said Penny that morning, "Mum, did you look at our snowman? He's the most wonderful snowman that ever stood on a front lawn, don't you think?"

"I do indeed, Penny," said her mother. "Your father and I were just saying that we'd never seen such a fine looking snowman. We can't take our eyes off him."

Penny laughed. "Neither can we, Mum . . . I mean Jimmy and I . . . Jimmy helped me to make him, you know. We just look at him and give him a pat here and a pat there and every pat makes him a better looking snowman. He's such fun to play with too, Mum. He says the funniest things."

"Oh, come now, Penny. He doesn't talk," said mother.

"Oh, well! We play he does, so it's the same thing. I hope it stays cold, Mum, for a few days. Jimmy and I are going to play with the snowman all winter if it stays cold."

It was when he heard that, that Kitten Kat made up his mind. "I'm going to be a snowman," he said to himself. "That's what I'm going to be. I thought once that it was the nicest thing in the world to be a kitten but now that nobody plays with me, I know it isn't. If I'm a snowman Penny and Jimmy will play with me. I've got to be a snowman." The silly Kitten Kat got up from his cozy place on the mat by the fire and made his way to the kitchen door. When the grocery boy came with the parcels, Kitten Kat slipped out into the winter day.

"Meow," he cried. "Oh, but it's cold. I don't think I'm going to like being a snowman very much. But I've got to be one and a finer one than's on the front lawn, too. I wonder how a kitten kat gets to be a snowman anyway!"

The snowbird heard the kitten's question and the snowbird answered him, "Roll in the snow . . . roll in the snow . . . roll in the snow."

"That's a good idea," Kitten Kat said, and he rolled in the snow. He

rolled over and over to the top of the hill and then he rolled down. Over and over he went. He was frightened now and he couldn't stop and he couldn't get his breath and he was buried now inside of the snowball that went on and on and on and on. At last he reached the foot of the hill, completely covered and out of sight. If you'd been there you might have heard him meowing inside of the ball when at last he could speak.

Now in the meantime, Penny had shown their very fine snowman to just about everyone they knew. "I know someone we haven't shown him to," said Jimmy suddenly, "Kitty Kat! I just know Kitten Kat would love to see him." And Jimmy went to the door and called, "Here Kitten Kat . . . here Kitten Kat . . . Here Kitty, Kitty, Kitty."

Mother told them she'd seen Kitten Kat go out with the grocer's boy.

"Well, that's funny," said Jimmy. "Kitten Kat doesn't often go out for so long in the winter. What do you suppose made him go out today?"

Penny's little face clouded with worry. "Say, Jimmy . . . do you know something? We haven't been near Kitten Kat for days. We haven't played with him or anything. You don't suppose he'd leave home do you?"

"I don't think so," said Jimmy.

"But we haven't patted him at all," said Penny.

"Well you never pat me and I don't leave home," said Jimmy.

"But kittens are different," said Penny. "He might have a feeling that we didn't love him anymore or something. Let's go look for him, Jimmy."

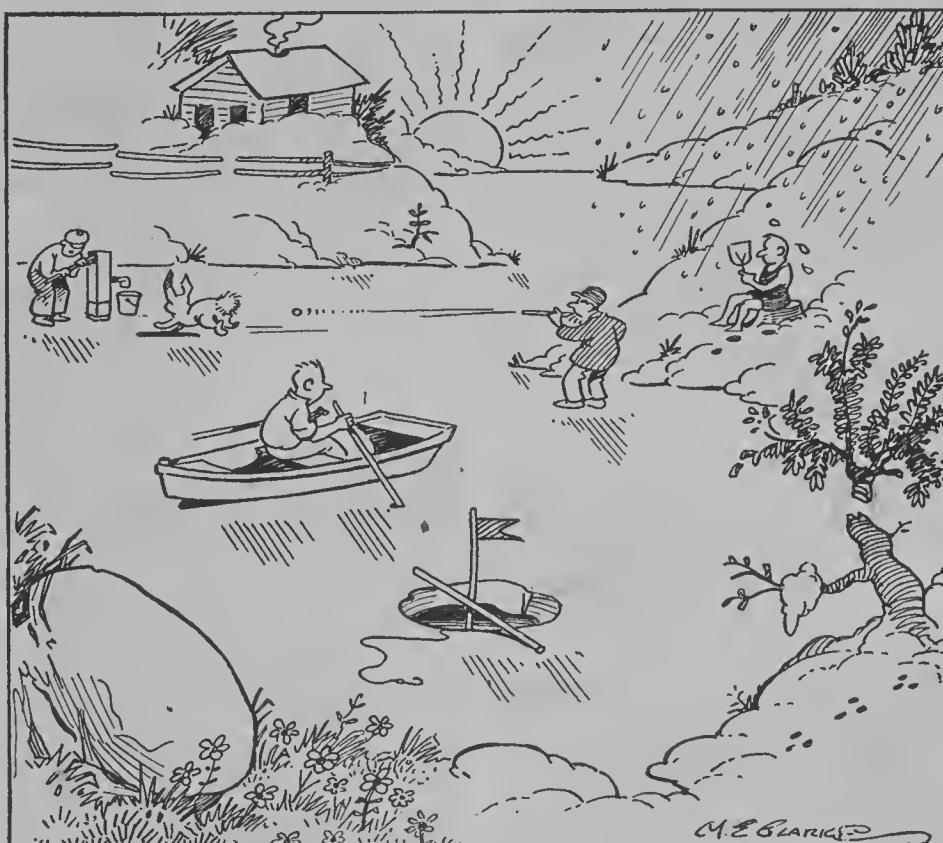
"Here Kitten Kat . . . here Kitten Kat," they called as they went along in the snow and then they noticed Kitten Kat's tracks and they followed them to the top of the hill and they saw where the snowball had started to roll and they ran then, down to the foot of the hill and they heard a faint, "Meow . . . Meow," coming from inside the great big snowball.

"Oh, Kitten Kat," cried the understanding little Penny as she snuggled him in her arms when he'd been dug out. "You were trying to be a snowman, weren't you?"

"Meow," answered Kitten Kat, which meant yes.

They took him wet and shivering back into the house. Of course he got the whooping cough and not much wonder. It rather served him right too, because a kitten kat who gets jealous of a snowman is just a very silly kitten kat. That's what I think.

## What's Wrong Here?



Look at the above picture very closely and see just how many things are wrong or out of place. If you guess correctly you will find there are TEN.

CHRISTMAS is over! New Year's is over! Holidays are over! And you are back at school. It wouldn't surprise me at all if you are looking forward, already, to February 14, St. Valentine's Day.

But that isn't what I really want to talk about this time. It's about reading. One of the nicest things about going to school is learning to read so that you are able to appreciate all the wonderful things in the world of books. What do you read? The funnies? Wild western magazines? They are fine, up to a point, but you should have some variety.

There are quite a lot of books that have proved popular with young people for years and years. And yet they are not, as you might think, old fashioned. They are books that are really well written and that have a charm about them that doesn't fade as the years go by. They are books that you will hear mentioned all your life, and it's nice to be able to recognize the titles and quotations from the books.

Perhaps you haven't explored all the possibilities of your own home bookcase or of your school library. Or perhaps there is some sort of lending library in your nearest town. If these do not have what you want, there is probably at least one neighboring family who will have a good supply of books, and will be glad to let you borrow them. Only do please remember to return them to their rightful owners, won't you. There is nothing much more annoying than to lend books and then not have them returned.

Some books that have stood the test of time are: "Little Women," by Alcott; "Adventures of Tom Sawyer," by Mark Twain; "Treasure Island," by Stevenson; "Heidi," by Spyri; "Robinson Crusoe," by Dafoe; "Pinnocchio," by Lorenzini; "Alice in Wonderland," by Carroll; "Hans Brinker," by Dodge; "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm," by Wiggin; and "The Tales of Robin Hood."

Happy reading!

## Grandma's Button Bag

By EFFIE BUTLER

When I am down at Grandma's farm,  
And dreary is the day,  
We get out Grandma's button bag  
To pass the time away.

Then Grandma tells a long, long tale  
Of all the buttons there  
The red ones, and the green ones, too,  
The round ones and the square.

"These pretty ones of china blue,"  
Says, Grandma, with a smile,  
"Were on my Mother's wedding dress  
When bustles were in style."

The pinks are from Aunt Helen's frock  
When she was small like me;  
The anchor ones of shiny gold  
My Daddy wore at three.

The velvet ones were on the coat  
My mummy wore to town,  
When she met Daddy tall and slim,  
And his grey hair was brown.

So in and out the long tale winds,  
The story of Grandma's day,  
A bit from every phase of life,  
Told by the buttons gay.

## The Art Gallery

TRY this contest at your next party. A number of articles are arranged on a table, each article representing the title of a picture. The contestants are asked to identify the articles with the list of titles given them.

- "Out for the Night" (candle).
- "Departed Day" (old calendar).
- "Scene in Bermuda" (onion).
- "We Part to Meet Again" (scissors).
- "The Reigning Favorite" (umbrella).
- "Home of Burns" (iron).
- "The Greatest Bet Ever Made" (alphabet).
- "A Line From Home" (clothesline).
- "The House the Colonel Lives In" (nutshell).
- "Cause of the American Revolution" (tax on tea—tacks lying on a large letter T).
- "A Heavenly Body" (dipper).
- "A Little Peacemaker" (knife).
- "Spring's Offering" (cup of water).
- "Bound to Rise" (yeast).
- "Family Jars" (several jam jars).
- "A Place for Reflection" (mirror).
- "Deer in Winter" (eggs).
- "Scene in a Baseball Game" (pitcher).
- "A Drive Through the Wood" (nail driven through a piece of wood).
- "A Skylight" (a star).
- "Commonsense" (several cent pieces).
- "The Black Friar" (frying pan).
- "An Absorbing Subject" (sponge).
- "A Morning Caller" (alarm clock).
- "Four Seasons" (salt, pepper, ginger, cinnamon or any four spices).

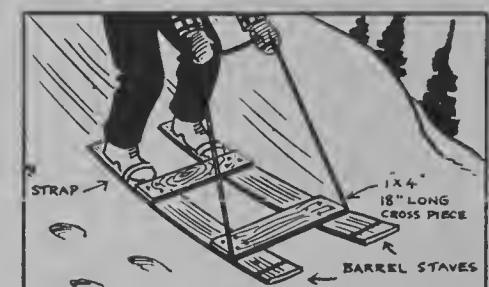
*Mary Sue.*

## Snow Coaster

MAKE this coaster for outdoor fun on these crisp winter days.

It is strong, easy to make and materials required are simple and easily obtainable. You will need a saw and a hammer, two barrel staves, two pieces of board, and a piece of rope. From a piece of 1-inch lumber, cut two braces 4 inches wide and 18 inches long. Nail these across two long barrel staves as shown in the sketch. They should be attached 12 inches from each end to allow room for your feet when using the coaster.

To one of the braces attach a rope long enough that you can stand up on one end of the staves and reach it comfortably. Just behind the other brace,



attach a stout strap to each stave. Find the proper position for these by placing your feet in position on the staves and attaching the straps over the toe caps of your shoes. The brace forms a stop for the feet, preventing them from slipping forward.

Now turn the staves over and sandpaper their running surface thoroughly. Or rub a thin coat of wax well into the staves. Or pour water over the under side of the staves and allow it to freeze. Any of these ideas will give a smooth coating surface and increase the running speed.

Your coaster is now complete and you are ready for a speedy trip to the bottom of the hill.

## What's Wrong Here?

### Answers

- Rowing boat on ice.
- Flowers in winter.
- Man using blow gun hunting.
- Well in stream of ice.
- Wearing bathing suit and fanning in winter.
- Limbs not connected on small tree.
- No fence posts.
- No chimney on the house.
- Snowing and raining while sun shines.
- Leaves on tree in winter time.

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### VICKS PLAN...Here's What You Do:

**1 Observe a Few Simple Health Rules.** Live normally. Avoid excesses. Eat simple food. Drink plenty of water. Keep elimination regular. Take some exercise daily, preferably outdoors. Get plenty of rest and sleep. Avoid people who have colds.

**2 At the First Sniffle or Sneeze** put a few drops of clinic-tested Vicks Va-tro-nol up each nostril. Use as directed in package. This specialized medication is expressly designed to aid natural defenses against colds—and so helps prevent many colds from developing. (If you should have a mean head cold, use Vicks Va-tro-nol to relieve the distress.)

**3 If a Cold Should Develop or Slip by Precautions** . . . rub clinic-tested Vicks VapoRub on back and on throat and chest. It penetrates to cold-congested upper bronchial tubes with soothing vapors. It stimulates chest and back surfaces like a warming poultice. This penetrating-stimulating action works for hours to relieve miseries of colds.

**NOTE:** Full details of Vicks Plan in your package of Vicks . . . If the miserable symptoms of a cold are not relieved promptly—or if more serious trouble seems to threaten—call in your family doctor right away.



## A Quarter-Hour With Books

**M**AKE THIS YOUR CANADA is a C.C.F. handbook. It can be had for a dollar at any C.C.F. office, and presumably from any local secretary. Its theme is revealed in its sub-title, A Review of C.C.F. History and Policy. Two appendices are included, one the Regina manifesto adopted at the first national convention in July, 1933; the other, For Victory and Reconstruction, adopted at the seventh national convention in Toronto last year, set forth C.C.F. war and postwar policies. Two portraits adorn the pages of the book. One is of the late J. S. Woodsworth, the social evangelist who inspired the C.C.F. movement, the other is of M. J. Coldwell, M.P., the astute parliamentarian who is now its undisputed leader. Short biographies of both men are included. The book was written by David Lewis, national C.C.F. secretary and Frank Scott, national chairman.

The book contains, of course, an all-out indictment of the capitalist system. With many of these charges many can agree without accepting state socialism as the remedy. The Country Guide can justly claim to have condemned the predatory aspects of big business, the piratical manipulation of high finance and the plain skulduggery of stock market riggers, and to have done it just as roundly as either David Lewis or Frank Scott have done. Public ownership of private utilities and national monopolies has been a cardinal feature of the policies advocated by two generations of organized farmers. There is no quarrel with the C.C.F. over the promotion of co-operation, or the extension of existing plans for social security and the adoption of new ones.

This is not the place to enter the century-old argument as to the comparative merits of socialism and free enterprise. The fact to be faced is that socialism has suddenly become a matter of practical politics in this country. The C.C.F. has had ten years of life which falls within the most tragic period of history; a period in which the world has suffered its most disastrous depression and its most brutal and devastating war. These are fertile times for the growth of radical movements. The C.C.F. has a policy and a plan of action which has received substantial, and to some, alarming support at the polls in recent months. Its history, its policy and its plan of action are completely covered in the 200-odd pages of this book, which was written before the Ontario election, but not published until a note of jubilation over the winning of 34 seats in that contest could be included in the preface.

**A** VERY substantial literature has been built up around the old trails westward from the earlier settled portions of the United States, to the Pacific Ocean. During the years before the American Civil War, the Overland Trail practically held the East and West together until such time as the country was knit by settlement and railroads, so as to be no longer dependent on such tenuous bonds. Names such as Oregon Trail, the Santa Fe Trail, and the Mormon Trail have a definite and important place in the history of western North America, particularly in the history of those years from the 1820's to the 1850's, and later. *THE WAKE OF THE PRAIRIE SCHOONER*, by Irene D. Paden (Macmillan, \$3.50) gives the breath of life to these old trails along which Indian massacres, buffalo stampedes, floods, breakdowns, sand storms, births, marriages and deaths were such frequent occurrences. The book is a combination of history, adventure and travel, and is the product of years of research which not only involved the discovery of scores of Overland diaries, but the actual reconstruction by personal travel and examination of all of these overland routes. Persons interested in the 19th century history and development of this continent will find

this book an absorbing document which contains a successful admixture of personal travel, historical facts, and social, economic and political history.

**C**RITICS of agriculture, including men of experience, both in practical farming and close study of the industry as a whole, frequently suggest poor management as one of the outstanding weaknesses of many individual farms. To the extent that this is true, *FARM MANAGEMENT*, by Robert R. Hudelson (Macmillan, \$2.75), will serve a very useful purpose. Actually this book, though written primarily for United States' conditions, is a much more useful book of this type than most books bearing on this subject. In the first place, it is very readable and not too technical. In the second place, the discussion of various farm problems is practical, and illustrated by pictures, diagrams, and a certain amount of tabulated information. Considerable attention is given to problems such as choosing a farm, tenancy, and gainful ownership; farm buildings; livestock and feed problems; power and equipment; and it possesses a large section dealing with farm operation, including outlining of the work program, market prospects, producing for home consumption, and adjusting production to demand. Two useful chapters are also included on farm records and accounts, and measuring the efficiency of one's farm.

**O**NE of the better and certainly one of the most popular novels of this fall season is *HUNGRY HILL*, by Daphne du Maurier (Ryerson, \$3.00). Readers who read Miss du Maurier's *Rebecca* three or four years ago will have some idea of what to expect. It is one of the novels that tells the story of a family, in this case the family of John Brodrick, his children and their families, in relation to the great hill from which the book gets its name and from which John Brodrick 120 years ago in England began to take great quantities of copper and to build up the fortune which his children were to use according to their various temperaments. Miss du Maurier makes of these lives a story of human variability and stupidity and folly. She has woven a fascinating fabric of nineteenth century life, where success came by overriding lesser folk, whose voting privileges as well as their labor was commanded by the employer.

**T**HERE has come to our attention what appears to be a very useful book on the subject of radio engineering. It is called *RADIO ENGINEERING*, edited by Roy C. Norris (Odhams Press, \$2.50). More than 600 illustrations are used to interpret the text and help to make the book what it was intended to be, namely, an illustrated guide to the study of radio. Nowadays, radio plays a very important part in the Armed Services, and many thousands of individuals who are mechanically inclined, are drawn to radio because of its growing popularity. This book deals with the subject all the way from a description of what radio is and how receivers work, to an explanation of circuits, and learning the Morse code, to television, radio service equipment, sound amplification, and a discussion of electricity. The book also includes some tables of reference.

### Useful Books—New and Old

<i>THE SYSTEM OF BASIC ENGLISH</i> , by C. K. Ogden	\$3.25
<i>MATA HARI, COURTESAN AND SPY</i> , by Coulson	1.49
<i>ROPE SPLICING: KNOTS, HITCHES AND SPLICES</i> (Ill.—Paper)	.30
<i>TAP DANCING: SIMPLE LESSONS</i> (Ill.—Paper)	.30
<i>POCKET DICTIONARY</i> (1943 Edition—30,000 words)	.85
<i>A GUIDE TO THE TREES</i> , by Carlton C. Curtis	2.00
<i>DEBATING</i> , by Margherita Osborne	.75
<i>HOME GAMES</i> , by George Haigood	.75

Any book desired may be obtained by writing, cash with order, to The Country Guide Book Department, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg, Man. Books will be supplied postpaid at Canadian publishers' current list price.



# THE COUNTRYWOMAN

## Old Friendship

By EUNICE TIETJENS

Beautiful and rich is an old friendship,  
Grateful to the touch as ancient ivory,  
Smooth as aged wine, or sheen of tapestry  
Where light has lingered, intimate and long.

Full of tears and warm is an old friendship  
That asks no longer deeds of gallantry,  
Or any deed at all—save that the friend shall be  
Alive and breathing somewhere, like a song.

The following few lines once headed an article in a Norwegian newspaper, by a Bishop who was asked how it felt to be old:

But all the true things in the world seem truer  
And the better things seem best  
And friends are dearer as friends are fewer,  
And love is all as our sun dips west.  
Then let us clasp hands as we walk together,  
And let us speak softly in love's sweet tones,  
For no one knows on the morrow whether  
We two pass by, or one alone.

## The Year Ahead

**W**E have turned the corner of another year. There is no way of telling what the new year will bring. We hope with all our heart that with it will come peace. Even though peace does not come, within the year's circle of days, we know now that it will see us much further along the road to that victory which shall be ours, ultimately.

We have become accustomed to inconveniences; to rationing, shortage of help, to doing without purchases we would like to make and for which we are prepared, to family dislocation for the duration, to longer hours and harder work. These things must be regarded as inconveniences rather than sacrifices. Few of us, apart from those whose sons, husbands, brothers, sweethearts number among war casualties in the lists of killed, wounded, sick or prisoner, know very little of the real sacrifices of war.

Each of us must meet the war situation and all that it means in her own way. Those whose vision is short are most likely to show disturbed behavior. Those who are far-sighted as to all that war means and all that peace may bring are quick to get to work and steady in their persistence with tasks which are essential, no matter how small or humble the tasks may be.

One of the important things we can do at the present time is to be calm. In any emergency the person who is effective is the person who keeps a cool clear head, who acts after she has considered. That consideration may only take a minute, but it is not the sort of thing a person does who "flies off the handle." There is more need now, than ever before, for the kind of person who is a pillar of strength, not a limp dishrag. The person who has to be continually bolstered up is a drain on the strength and the courage of others.

Hard work may, in itself, be a godsend just now. It is a wholesome outlet for strong emotions that are natural to war. The newest studies of energy show that strong emotions may in themselves cause undue fatigue and destroy body tissue just as overwork does. Both energy and body tissue need to be conserved for the work and planning which will win the war and build the peace.

Keeping well in these times is more than a personal matter. It is a community and national duty. We must give serious thought to it. It means eating the right food, getting enough sleep and exercise. It means wisdom in spacing periods of rest and work so that we may keep up a good level of production and at the same time be comfortable persons with whom to live. In keeping well we shall have to depend more on our own resources because of the shortage of doctors and nurses for civilian practice.

Of one thing we may be sure! The new year will make further demands on us. In it may come some of the toughest battles which have yet been waged on the home front. Though the war news may be brighter, we shall not be able to relax one

## Thoughts concerning the turn of the year, gardens and education of the future

By AMY J. ROE

iota from a strict program of: Conservation of our present supplies; small and large savings wherever and whenever possible; further inconveniences of shortages of things we think we need; and work for every able man and woman, boy and girl.

These things demand thought. Obstacles and difficulties are a challenge to the wits. We will have to make plans well in advance. Keeping our minds clear of anxiety and fear and concentrating on the job in hand, will go far in 1944 to effective living for all those working on the home front.

## Garden Pictures

**A**RTISTS work with oils, water colors or pastel chalks to produce pictures which will charm us with their pleasing harmony of color. During last summer's travels we had the pleasure of meeting a lady, who may well be described as an artist in flowers. She employs shrubs, trees and flowers against a background of smooth green lawns to produce the kind of garden picture she desires.

She is modest about her efforts and a bit regretful now, because there is neither the time nor the help to engage in her pleasant hobby as much as she would like. When there was leisure and adequate help, it was her joy to work out color schemes before planting seed and bulbs in the spring. Planning here a mass of blue, there touches of yellow or a blending of pink and rose or perhaps a glorious mixture of all colors, she laid down her garden plans on paper. Later she planted to that design with colors sketched in to help her achieve the effect wanted. It was necessary of course to keep in mind the season of bloom for each plant, its height when at the flowering stage. Add to these matters the uncertainties of any given season and you have a sufficiently complicated subject to tax the imagination and resources of any artist. These were not colors which could be washed out or intensi-

fied after observation. The design stood on its own merits for the summer.

The garden artist is Mrs. Gibson, wife of W. H. Gibson, superintendent of the Indian Head Experimental Farm. Our visit was short but we managed to secure a photo of Mrs. Gibson standing beside the lily pool in a corner of the house lawn. In other corners of that garden were interesting pieces of fossilized wood brought from the Big Muddy district in southern Saskatchewan.

## Looking Forward

**I**N the many reports which are now being made on postwar planning, children as such are seldom mentioned. Yet they are the inexpendable resource for the future of free and democratic people everywhere. Katherine Reeves, of the New York State College of Home Economics, author of many children's stories and articles and nursery school head, offers us a most timely reminder:

"The job of creating a world in which children can develop physical, mental and moral stamina is the immediate job of us all, since the young children of today are citizens of the world, who will have the job of creating and maintaining democratic society. For this reason, if no other, children must not be slighted through our ignorance, indifference or inertia. In spite of enormous strides in popular interest in the welfare and development of children, and the understanding of their needs, general social good for all of them has moved slowly."

During the present year there will be much said about postwar plans and findings made are likely to be written into government programs for the future. It must be our duty to remind legislators and those in places of responsibility that those programs must include far-seeing plans for the education of boys and girls. We may well heed the words of those experienced in fields of education, to trained and sympathetic educationalists. And while we are remembering the importance of schools and other formal means of education we will not forget that the home plays an equally important role in fitting the child into his place in society. Another leader in education Professor Mark Entorf of the same college as Miss Reeves has pointed out:

"The family is the greatest single influence in shaping human lives and within the family circle, the individuals get their basic education in living with other people. Respect for persons is the one thing which makes democracy possible. In a dictatorship, no individual is important; all exist for the state. Respect for persons means that no individual wants to or can exercise power or authority over others; and that no one needs to exploit others for his personal gain."

"A sense of group unity and of common interests begins in the family life in which the interests and the needs of each member of the family are heard and considered, where decisions are made by common consent. Goodwill between persons is indispensable in a free nation. It is found in persons who grow up in families in which it really exists. The principal enemies of democracy are fear, hostility and greed, which foster insecurity, rebellion and revenge."

**W**E are informed by recent official announcement that there will be no increase in tea and coffee rations. Canadians have greatly increased the amount of coffee they drink as compared with tea. Supplies of tea are just adequate to maintain the present ration. About seven per cent of tea and coffee is served in public eating places.

A visitor to Canada, John Maud, secretary to the Ministry of Food, said something concerning rationing and supplies of bacon in England that we would do well to remember. "Breakfast is the one meal in the day that is rather unsatisfactory. For most of us it consists of tea, toast with little margarine to spread on the toast and less marmalade to spread on the margarine. Then there is porridge which, because of the milk shortage, is rather thick. Did we not have the four-ounce bacon ration, it would be impossible for us to have even the one cooked breakfast to which we look forward every week."



Mrs. W. H. Gibson beside the lily pool on the lawn at Indian Head Experimental Farm.

# RURAL HEALTH SCHEMES

The story of the splendid growth of municipal plans to provide medical services to rural people in Saskatchewan

By J. T. EWING

MEDICAL care in rural areas was for many years a serious problem in Saskatchewan. Since nearly two-thirds of her people live on farms, which average about 320 acres each, rural areas are not thickly populated. Only seven of her cities contain more than 5,000 inhabitants, consequently few areas are adjacent to large centres. For this reason physicians, who under ordinary conditions of private practice, settle in larger centres, are not well distributed among rural dwellers.

As a means of inducing physicians to settle in the more sparsely settled areas, legislation was enacted as early as 1916 authorizing rural municipalities to tax themselves to pay a physician up to \$1,500 per year, as an inducement to settle in a community to supply medical care to residents. This grant or salary guarantee did not limit a doctor's right to carry on his private practice. Often it was merely a stipend for his services as medical health officer for the community. Power to employ a municipal doctor with stipulated duties, at a maximum annual salary of \$5,000 was granted in 1919. With modifications, these two plans are the ones most widely used today. Of the 302 rural municipalities in Saskatchewan 106 now have municipal doctor schemes of one kind or another.

Most agreements with physicians provide only for general medical services, obstetrical care and minor operations. To obtain the services of a qualified surgeon for major operations, the same procedure is followed as for establishing general medical services. Major surgical services now are provided by 40 rural municipalities, 17 villages, and six towns.

Not until 1935 were towns and villages authorized to employ physicians, using funds provided by taxation on land. In such cases the maximum salary paid must not exceed an amount equal to two dollars per head of population. At present eight towns and 65 villages are receiving general medical care by this method.

EARLY legislation empowered urban and rural municipalities to assist financially in the erection and maintenance of hospitals. The Union Hospital Act, passed in 1916, enabled two or more municipalities to get together and share the expense of building a hospital. Hospitalization at municipal expense was extended to rural municipalities contained in union hospital districts in 1927. It was further extended to rural municipalities not in union hospital districts in the following year. By legislation enacted in 1932 any rural munici-

pality could enter into an agreement with any hospital to provide hospitalization for its residents. This privilege was extended to towns and villages in 1936.

Until 1939 these services could be financed only by municipal money acquired through taxation of land. In that year a new provincial law enabled rural municipalities, towns and villages alike to provide the money for hospitalization and medical services by means of a personal tax.

A rural municipality can also provide nursing care. (The enabling legislation does not as yet apply to towns and villages.) A sum not exceeding \$1,000 per year may be paid to a qualified resident nurse. If there is no resident physician within its boundaries, the amount may be increased to \$1,500. One rural municipality supplies free nursing service up to nine days at any one time for any one patient. Another pays a nurse an annual salary of \$1,000 to render any nursing care of which she is capable in the municipality.

Provision has also been made for a rural municipality to employ a dentist to care for the dental needs of the area. As yet no extensive use has been made of a dental surgeon in this capacity.

Expenses of medical care and hospitalization may be shared by two or more municipalities. Or portions of a municipality may co-operate with portions of a neighboring municipality. If the personal tax scheme is used, special



*Indian Head Union Hospital building provides for medical cases in the district.*

provision is made for the co-operating areas to get together and pay a joint salary. Towns and villages, too, may join with rural municipalities to supply medical attention. Other legislation provides for voluntary groups to tax themselves to provide medical and hospital services. This applies not only to rural municipalities, towns and villages, but also to cities.

How does a community go about providing one of these services? A rural municipality is of course the smallest rural government unit within a province. While they occasionally vary in size, usually they contain nine townships, a township being six miles square. The administrative body of each municipality is a council elected by popular vote, having powers similar to those possessed by village, town, or city councils. Their average population is about 2,100.

form mutual benefit associations which engage doctors or make arrangements with hospitals to provide accommodation for their members. Unlike the other schemes mentioned, mutual benefit associations may be formed in cities, as well as in rural areas, villages, and towns.

To set up the necessary machinery for obtaining the services of a municipal doctor, or to provide for major surgery, the council of a rural municipality, village, or town, acting on its own resolution, or upon receipt of a petition signed by at least 25 of the resident ratepayers of the area affected (25 per cent in the case of villages and towns), prepares and submits a by-law on the subject to the voters. If three-fifths of the voters favor the by-law the council may enter into an agreement with a doctor for the service. A similar procedure is followed where it is desired to provide hospitalization for residents. A two-third majority is necessary for this type of by-law to become effective in a town or village, a three-fifths majority in a rural municipality. Before an agreement can be put into effect it must be approved by the Health Services Board, a branch of the provincial Department of Public Health. The board is composed of three members, a practising physician nominated by the Saskatchewan College of Physicians and Surgeons, a member nominated by the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, and the Deputy Minister of Public Health, who acts as chairman.

THE Health Services Board has drawn up a model "Municipal Physician Agreement," which is used by most municipalities in contracting for the services of a physician. As outlined by Dr. R. O. Davison, Deputy Minister of Health, this agreement requires the physician to furnish all residents with general medical services, obstetrical care and minor operations. In a rural municipality where the number of people warrants it the doctor is asked to give his whole time and attention to the service and not to practise his profession outside of the area, except in case of an emergency, and then only until the patient can be turned over to the care of another physician. This contract, however, enables him to practise in a town or village situated within the boundaries of the rural municipality, as long as such practice does not interfere with his responsibility to the municipality. He acts as medical health officer for the area. He furnishes patients with ordinary drugs, medicines, and dressings on his first visit for temporary relief. Patients pay for subsequent supplies.

Preventive services are stressed. The doctor agrees to systematically organize, establish, and conduct immunization clinics for pre-school, school-age children, and others who request protection. He also agrees to physically inspect all



*Top shows Rosetown Union Hospital; centre the medical and nursing staff; bottom the fine residence provided in Rosetown for nurses.*

Several methods now are in use for obtaining the money to employ a municipal doctor, or to provide hospital care. The procedure still most often fol-

lowed is that of levying a flat rate on each piece of property. The personal tax scheme is a more recent innovation introduced in 1939. It provides for the necessary money to be raised by a personal tax levied on each individual resident of the rural municipality, town, or village.

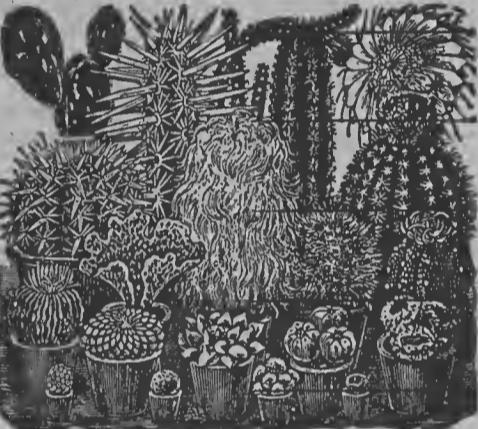
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school children at least once in each school year, and to examine thoroughly children who appear subnormal.

The doctor is permitted to make a service charge only if an unnecessary home call is made. In such an event he may collect from the patient a fee of two dollars, plus a reasonable mileage or livery charge.

This model agreement is not yet in universal use. As a number of contracts were negotiated many years ago some municipalities permit the doctor to take an initial home visit fee. Often a charge is made for attending a maternity case. In a few cases he collects a fee for minor surgery. A number of agreements allow the doctor to collect a mileage charge. Many contracts do not require him to supply medicines to patients on the first visit. The provisions of the model contract, however, have been threshed out in many conferences of medical men and municipal officers, and are the result of many years of experience with various methods. Consequently, only the model contract is now approved for use in making an agreement with a physician for the first time.

VARIOUS schemes are in operation for the provision of hospitalization. Most popular now is the payment by the municipality of public ward accommodation, at a daily rate which enables the hospital to include all ordinary hospital services. Many municipalities limit their responsibility to a specified number of days, while those using a personal tax to defray expenses invariably fix a maximum payment of 21 days' hospitalization.

Generally speaking, the cost of hospitalization runs close to the amount paid to the physician. Just what will be an average cost for each person is not definitely known as yet. One Birch Hills municipality in north central Saskatchewan has a population of 2,000. It employs a resident physician at a salary of \$5,000 per year, who supplies general medical care and minor surgery. If major surgery is required, the patient may go either to Saskatoon or Regina to a doctor of his choice. The surgeon's fee will be paid, up to a maximum of \$100. To raise money for this service, a levy of five dollars per person is made, with a family maximum of \$40.

Another municipality, having a population of 1,322, supplies hospital care for a patient for 21 days at any one time. It levies three dollars on each person, with a family maximum of \$18.

Two neighboring villages with 97 and 150 inhabitants, respectively, are retaining the services of the same physician, who also serves the surrounding rural area as municipal doctor. The smaller village pays him \$270 for general medical care and minor operations, levying \$5.50 per person, with a family maximum of \$20. The second village pays \$300 per year, and levies three dollars per person, with a family maximum of \$10.

Still another municipality employs a resident doctor, gives a choice of physicians for referred work (major operations), and provides 21 days' free hospitalization. It is costing around \$10 per person for that service.

Collection of the personal tax may be forced, much the same as the land tax. It may be collected from an employer, or a court order may be secured to seize real or personal property. Many consider it superior to the land tax for these services, because every person who is benefited pays for it. Unlike the land tax method, however, if there is a deficit, the extra money required may not be taken out of the general fund, without provision being made for repayment.

The most recently enacted scheme whereby ten or more persons may form a mutual medical or hospital benefit association is rapidly growing in popularity. Members of the organization elect a board of directors which arranges

Turn to page 44

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Serve spiced sugar doughnuts and apple cider for a winter evening party.

## Winter Party-time

By MARJORIE J. GUILFORD

**H**OスピALITY is one of our strong points, especially during the long shut-in period. It is a fine thing to have friends and neighbors gather round on a winter's night and join in fun and games and talk. Or to have a crowd of youngsters come bouncing in after skating or sleigh-riding with rosy cheeks and ravenous appetites.

You'll feel like putting your best foot forward, as regards refreshments. Something just a little different, but still in keeping with wartime simplicity, is in order. Particularly for the folk just in from out-of-doors, things should be piping hot and temptingly tasty.

They'll be hungry enough too, that they will appreciate something fairly substantial. Toasted sandwiches, hamburgers, or hot-dogs are well-known favorites. For lighter fare, squares of lightly buttered bread, dipped into finely grated cheese, and topped with a tiny piece of bacon are toasted in the oven. Or cheese flavored baking powder biscuits are served with tart jelly. We suggest that you try the following savory "first course" ideas.

### Surprise Packets

Roll biscuit dough thin and cut with a large cookie cutter. Fry thin sausage patties and brown. Put one of these, drained, between two rounds of the dough, and pinch the edges together well. Bake like biscuits. If not served at once, reheat for serving.

### Savory Sandwiches

Spread slices of whole-wheat or graham toast with butter. Over these place slices of crisply cooked bacon. Sprinkle generously with chopped pickle and horseradish. Serve hot.

### Pan-toasted Sandwiches

Make cheese, chicken or fish paste sandwiches without buttering the inner sides of the bread. Instead, spread a thin layer of butter on the outside of the sandwich, and place it in a hot frying pan. Toast, or fry, on both sides, to a

delicate golden brown. Serve at once. These sandwiches are more quickly and easily made than by the usual method, and are piping hot when served.

For a sweet, what could be more suitable and satisfying than doughnuts. Or small hot pastries such as apple or mincemeat turnovers. Pinwheel biscuits are good, too, or your favorite bran muffins, accompanied by jelly or honey or generous squares of gingerbread.

### Spiced Sugar Doughnuts

3 T. shortening	1 tsp. nutmeg
½ c. sugar	1 tsp. salt
2 well-beaten eggs	4 tsp. baking powder
4 c. flour	1 c. milk

Cream shortening, and add sugar. Add eggs. Sift dry ingredients together. Add alternately with milk. If necessary add more flour to make a soft dough. Roll half inch thick on a floured board. Cut with doughnut cutter; fry in deep fat until brown, turning once. Drain. While still warm, shake in a paper bag holding:

½ c. sugar	2 T. cinnamon
until doughnuts are well coated. Makes two dozen.	

### Beverage? Try one of these

#### Reception Chocolate

1 quart milk	½ c. sugar
½ c. cocoa	½ tsp. vanilla
¼ c. flour	⅛ tsp. salt
1 quart water	

Mix dry ingredients and make a smooth paste with some of the water. Pour on the remainder of the water and boil slowly for 15 minutes. Combine with the milk, bring to the boiling point. Add vanilla. Serve with whipped cream, if available. This is a thick rich cocoa which is improved by standing over hot water for an hour or more.

#### Hot Spiced Cider

1 gal. sweet cider	1 T. whole cloves
1 lb. brown sugar	1 T. whole allspice
6 2-inch pieces stick cinnamon	2 pieces whole mace
	½ tsp. salt

Mix ingredients in order given, bring the mixture to the boiling point, and boil 15 minutes. Serve hot.

## Cereals on Duty

They are valuable aids in these days in stretching out protein foods

**W**E are thinking of cereals in a new way, these days. They used to be breakfast foods, and ingredients for breads and muffins only. And we used to value them chiefly for the energy-giving starch which they contain. These still are important considerations. But now, with the protein foods, meat, fish, cheese, eggs and milk not quite as plentiful as they have been, we are realizing that cereal products can help out in stretching the supplies that are available. Even though living on the farm, you may have all the meat, milk and eggs that

you can use, it will help out the over-all situation if you use less and market more.

Cereal products, whole wheat, oatmeal, bran, wheat flakes, and all the others, contain a worthwhile amount of protein. It is not the complete, high-quality protein that supplies all the daily needs, but it does go a long way in supplementing the proteins from animal sources. It is an application of the theory that two halves make a whole.

An important point to keep in mind in any discussion of cereals is that the refined ones furnish little more than

## This Home-Mixed Cough Relief Is Splendid

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To get really surprising relief from coughs due to colds, you can easily prepare a medicine, right in your own kitchen. It's very easy—anyone can do it—needs no cooking, and tastes so good that children take it willingly. But you'll say it's hard to beat, for quick results.

First, make a syrup by stirring 2 cups of granulated sugar and one cup of water a few moments, until dissolved. (Or you can use corn syrup or liquid honey, instead of sugar syrup.) Then get 2½ ounces of Pinex from any druggist, and pour it into a 16 ounce bottle. Then add your syrup. This gives you 16 ounces of really splendid cough syrup—about four times as much for your money. It never spoils, and lasts a family a long time.

And for quick relief, it is actually splendid. It works in three ways—loosens phlegm, soothes irritated membranes, and helps clear the air passages.

Pinex is a special compound of proven ingredients, in concentrated form, well known for prompt action in coughs and bronchial irritations. Money refunded if it doesn't please you in every way.

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the nutrients already mentioned—protein and starch. Whole grain products, on the other hand, have an iron and vitamin B content that puts them in a higher category of nutritive value, and gives you more value for your money. So give them a "first" place in your schedule of plans, and let the refined cereals be the "fillers-in."

Cereals come to the main course of dinner or supper in casserole dishes, meat loaves and meat patties. Use them in the following recipes, and incorporate them into the recipes from your own file. They are good for thickening sauces and gravies too. Use crumbled whole grain breakfast cereals when "buttered crumbs" are called for to top off a casserole.

### Ham Loaf

1 lb. smoked ham (ground)	2 T. chopped green pepper
½ lb. lean pork (ground)	2 c. crumbled cereal flakes
½ lb. veal (ground)	2 eggs
½ tsp. salt	1 c. milk

Combine all ingredients thoroughly. Fill a long narrow cloth bag with the mixture, and boil for one hour, or bake in a loaf pan in a moderate oven (350 degrees Fahr.) for one hour. Serves eight. If the loaf is chilled it can be cut into thin slices for sandwiches, cold meat platters, etc.

### Whole Wheat Chili

1 lb. hamburger	1½ tsp. pepper
1 large onion, chopped	2 c. cooked whole wheat
3 T. fat	½ T. chili powder
4 c. canned tomatoes	1½ tsp. salt

Brown the hamburger and the onion in the fat. Add tomatoes and the seasonings. Simmer the chili until it is as thick as desired. Add the cooked wheat. Heat the chili and serve it with crackers.

### Meat Goulash

1 lb. lean stewing beef cubed	1½ tsp. salt
2 T. flour	2 T. chopped onions
1 T. fat	2 c. canned tomatoes
2 c. water	2 T. chopped green pepper
½ c. uncooked rice or uncooked spaghetti	½ c. grated cheese

Dredge the meat cakes with the flour, and brown them in hot fat in a pan. Add the water, salt and vegetables. Simmer the mixture until the meat is tender, then add the rice or spaghetti which has been cooked and heat all thoroughly. Sprinkle the cheese over the top of the goulash before it is served.

### Kidney Bean and Ham Casserole

2 c. cooked kidney beans	2 T. minced onion
½ c. ground cooked ham	¾ c. fine dry bread crumbs
1 egg, slightly beaten	1 c. fresh or canned tomatoes
1 T. fat	½ tsp. salt

Mash the beans, then mix all the ingredients and put the mixture into a greased casserole. If desired, cover the top with grated cheese. Bake the mixture in a moderate oven for 30 minutes.

### Mexican Meat Cakes

1½ tsp. salt	2 T. fat
Few grains pepper	1½ c. water
3 T. chopped onion	3 T. flour
½ c. evaporated milk	½ c. ketchup
¼ c. whole bran	½ tsp. Worcester-shire sauce
1 lb. beef chuck, ground	½ tsp. chili powder

Add salt, pepper, onion and milk to bran. Let stand five minutes until bran absorbs milk. Add meat, mix lightly. Form gently into eight patties. Brown on both sides in fat. Add small amount of water to flour, mix to a smooth paste. Add remaining water, ketchup, Worcestershire sauce, chili powder. Pour over patties. Cover, simmer 15 to 20 minutes. Serves four.

### Cheese Macaroni Loaf

¾ c. broken macaroni	½ c. grated cheese
1 tsp. parsley	½ c. milk
2 tsp. chopped onion	1 egg
1 T. green pepper	1 tsp. salt
2 T. fat	½ c. buttered crumbs

Cook macaroni in boiling salted water until tender. Cook parsley, onion and green pepper in fat until tender. Drain water from macaroni. Place a layer of macaroni in a buttered baking dish, then add a layer of onion mixture and cheese. Repeat until the dish is full. Pour over it the milk mixed with egg and salt. Cover with buttered crumbs and brown in a hot oven. Serve with tomato sauce. Serves six.

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CANADA

# No BUTTER needed on these Biscuits

## Magic Cinnamon Roll-Ups

2 cups sifted flour	¾ cup milk (about)
4 tbsps. Magic Baking Powder	Brown sugar
½ tspn. salt	Cinnamon
4 tbsps. shortening	½ cup raisins

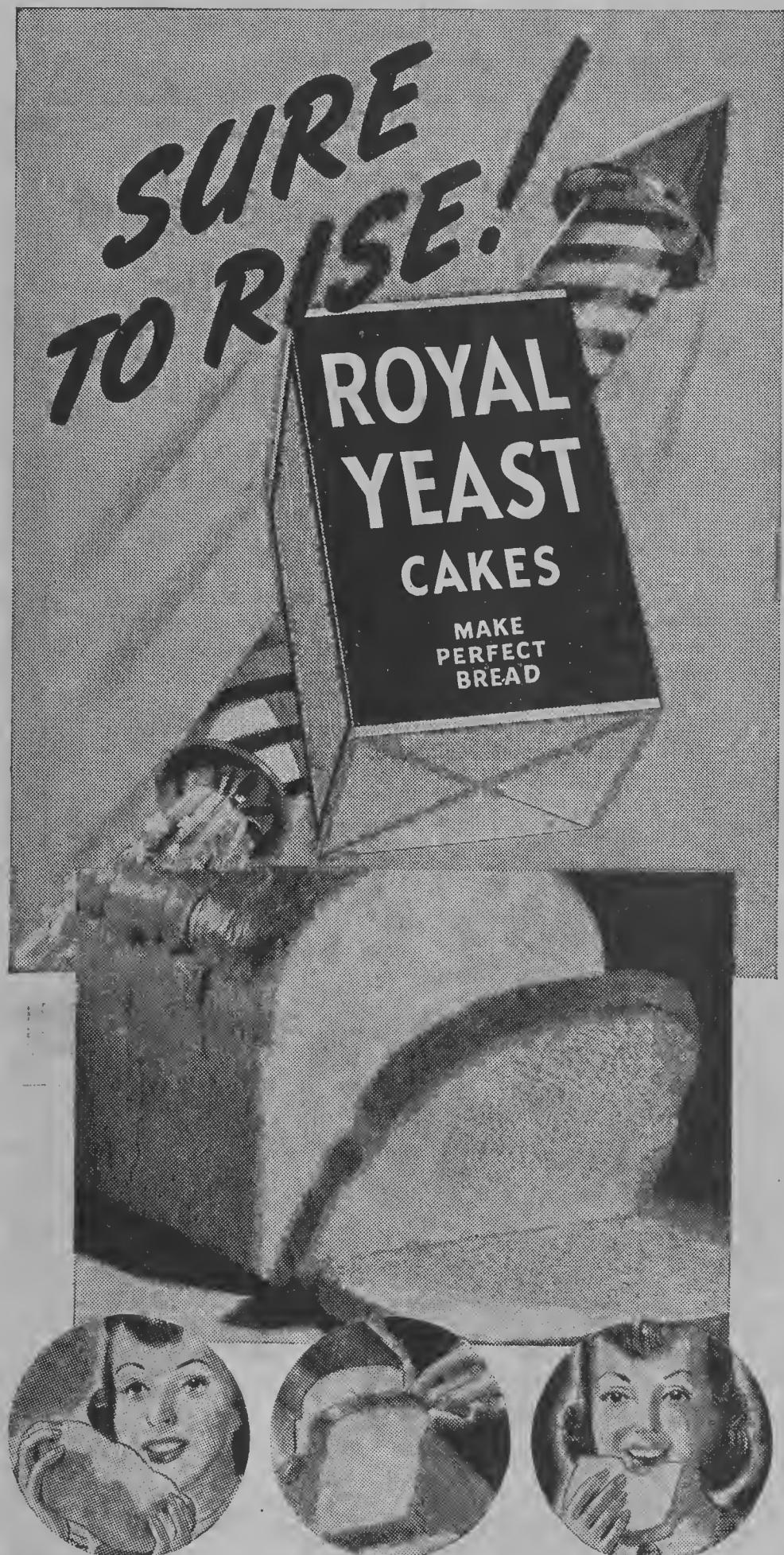
Mix, sift first three ingredients. Cut in shortening, until mixed. Add milk to make smooth dough. Knead ½ minute on lightly floured board; roll dough into ¼-inch thick oblong. Sprinkle with brown sugar, cinnamon, raisins. Roll lengthwise; cut into 1-inch slices. Bake cut side down in greased muffin pans or pie pan in hot oven (450°F.) 15 minutes. Makes 10.



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ROYAL YEAST! ALSO  
RECIPE BOOKLET!

## RURAL HEALTH SCHEMES

Continued from page 41

with one or more physicians, dentists, nurses, or hospitals to provide specified services. Such agreements must be approved by the Health Services Board before becoming effective. Service and expenses are paid for by regular premiums or assessments voted by the members upon themselves. No limits are placed upon the amounts which may be paid to physicians.

ONE of the most successful of the eleven mutual benefit associations in Saskatchewan is operating in a city of 45,000, and now has 1,595 members. Each member pays a monthly fee of \$1.75 for himself, \$1.75 per month for each of his family over 21 years of age, \$1.00 per month for first child, \$1.00 per month for second child, and 50 cents per month for each additional child.

Benefits offered consist of payment of necessary medical and surgical care, including consultations, treatments, examinations, surgical procedures, preventive care, laboratory tests, x-ray examinations, physiotherapy, quartz light, ultra violet ray, infra red ray. The member may choose any physician in the district and either of two city hospitals. Hospitalization is paid for by the association at three dollars per day in return for general ward accommodation, ordinary nursing and auxiliary services.

One other plan for retaining the services of a physician is available. The municipality may authorize a doctor to care for patients on a fee basis and present these bills to the council for payment. This enables districts in the neighborhood of the larger cities to offer a more satisfactory service to residents.

As intimated at the beginning of the article it was because of sparse populations in outlying districts that the municipal doctor scheme was first worked out. As time went on, however, it was adopted in more populous areas, where physicians were already giving good service in private practice.

The same is true of the hospitalization scheme. As one supporter of free hospital service remarked, "We tax ourselves to pay the bills of indigents who are sick; why not tax ourselves a little more and pay all our hospital bills."

FROM the standpoint of the farmer and the small town dweller the municipal doctor scheme acts as a kind of medical insurance policy. Upon payment of a small annual "premium" they are assured of free treatment when they are ill. As a preventive service it is amply proving its worth. A larger percentage of maternity cases obtain prenatal care, and a greater number of other patients seek treatment in early stages of disease.

While the physician loses a certain amount of the independence he enjoyed as a private practitioner, and doubtless is imposed upon at times, he possesses a greater sense of security when he knows his cheque is coming regularly every month, and he does not have to worry about collections. Usually he is better able to plan his work so that he can care for more patients than a private practitioner in the same time. Also he is freer to judge when urgent and serious cases deserve greater attention, regardless of the economic status of the patient.

Due to the exigencies of war there is now an acute shortage of both physicians and nurses. Some rural municipalities would like to adopt some municipal doctor scheme, but are unable to obtain the services of a physician. In many areas where medical and hospital care has already been instituted, it is very difficult to obtain satisfactory hospital service because of the shortage of capable help.

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## A New Angle on Looks

A critical study may well start you on the way to New Year resolutions on beauty care

By LORETTA MILLER

**T**HE girl who depends upon only one mirror for her guide to good looks isn't being fair with herself. For seldom does one catch her single mirror reflection as others see her. So, take up your hand mirror now and in its mirrored surface study your reflection's reflection.

Study your reflection from all angles. Notice how an underchin that appears young and flawless when viewed from the front, may not be its attractive self when seen from the side. Also watch how the right profile differs from the left. If you want to be one-hundred per cent honest with yourself look at the three-quarters view of your face and head. This, in the opinion of many beauty authorities, is the most forgotten and least cared-for angle.

After you have studied your features, facial contour and hair arrangement from all angles, get out your essential "tools" and make yourself over. How about your eyebrows? Perhaps they appear perfect when seen from the front, but entirely too heavy, or maybe thin, when viewed from other angles. Using an eyebrow pencil the same shade as your hair, draw in a brow line that balances your features and facial contour from all angles. If your face is wide, don't attempt thin, pencil-line brows that extend out to or toward the temples. And don't make broad, heavy and dark brows. Rather affect an in-between brow line which will give the illusion of height rather than width to your facial structure.

**T**O give a long thin face the illusion of lovelier contour or better proportion, use a slightly heavier hand when drawing in your brows. However, regardless of facial structure the tips of the brows should never extend to the temples. Avoid an exaggerated or extreme brow line at all times. Even though a highly arched and pencil thin brow may look well when viewed from the front, you'll find it a little grotesque when seen from all other angles.

Lashes that jut straight out from the edge of the lids are not as attractive when seen from the side as are those which turn up. If your lashes do not have a natural tendency to curl upward, try training them now. Use a little brow brush and petroleum jelly for grooming these hairs. Brush upper lashes upward; lower lashes downward.

**N**EXT to the brows and lashes, lips receive attention. It is thought that more girls would achieve better looks if more attention were given to these two features. By the careful shaping of the lips with the right shade of rouge, one can alter her facial expression as well as correct any slight imperfection in lip outline.

Try rouging in lips of various sizes and shapes, studying each from every angle. If your face is broad, don't expect a tight, thin and exaggerated Cupid's bow lip-line to be attractive. Such lips would be completely out of balance. Fit the lips to conform to other facial features and facial contour. The most satisfactory lip, generally, is to follow the natural outline, making only slight changes and then most carefully.

Once you've put on lip make-up that seems pleasing from all sides, tilt your head up, then down and study its reflection. Be critical, and be honest enough to remove an application of lip rouge that isn't really becoming from every position and angle.

The application of cheek rouge can make or unmake your appearance. Watch the placing of this important cosmetic, studying its outline from the



Susan Hayward, movie star, in dramatic pose.

side as well as the front. To make a too broad face appear narrower through the upper cheek region, do this: Place your rouge rather high on your cheeks and extend the coloring out to or almost to your hairline. Don't bring the color too close to your eyes or you'll give the illusion of extra width. Watch the application as you progress with it and don't use more coloring than you actually need to brighten your complexion and to help give your facial structure the illusion of perfection. (Let me remind you here that make-up should always be applied under a good light.) Use the "trial and error" method when putting on make-up: Put it on, study its application and, if it doesn't please you, take it off and try another.

**H**OW about your hair? Does the profile of its arrangement balance that of your face? For instance, does the fullness of the hair across the back of your head prove flattering when seen from the side? Does it make your already too well-proportioned—or perhaps too small—nose appear out-of-proportion? Don't overlook your back and three-quarters view. If your shoulders are narrow, don't wear a long, fluffed-out hairdo or it will tend to make your already narrow shoulders narrower, and the entire ensemble will be thrown out of balance.

Now go a step beyond and be really critical of your appearance from all angles. How does the neckline of your frock look from the side and back? Are all the hooks and buttons in place? Is the collar fresh or the frock freshly brushed? Are your shoulders free from powder, scalp flakes, hair? How about your posture from the side and back? Shoulders straight? No unnecessary hairpins or bob pins showing across the back and sides of your hair?

Finally put on your hat and study its line from the side. Is it as flattering from this angle as when you see yourself head-on in the mirror? And now, with your coat on, look yourself over. Are you pleased with whatever view of yourself is reflected in your mirror?

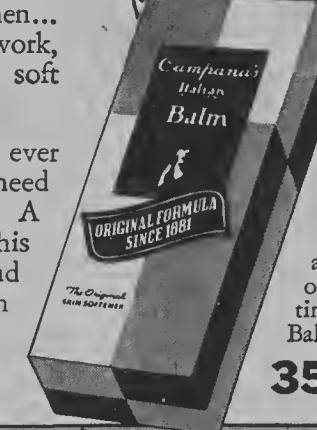
If you've never given serious thought to the suggestions given today, you'll find it thrilling to discover a new you. You'll be able to see yourself as others see you. If an application of make-up, an unbecoming hairdo, or if your neckline or posture is not one-hundred percent perfect, keyed to your ensemble, you must correct it. In a measure, this new you will give you new interest. It might well start you on the way to a new year of resolutions to make yourself as lovely as ever you can.



...more than ever!

EXTRA WORK...dirtier jobs...all to be done with the same pair of hands that must match the loveliness of your best dress. Let Campana's Italian Balm give your hands its famous protecting care and then...in spite of harder work, your hands will be soft and lovely.

TODAY...more than ever before, your hands need Campana's Balm. A drop or two of this rich, soothing hand lotion does for both hands. A 35c bottle lasts a long time.



POPULAR FOR OVER 60 YEARS!

"Nothing better for the hands", say beauty-wise women. And thank goodness there are 265 applications for both hands, in one bottle; for in these war times the supply of Campana's Balm is unavoidably limited.

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The Vitamin B<sub>1</sub> Tonic  
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Extensively used for headache, loss of sleep, nervous indigestion, irritability, anaemia, chronic fatigue, and exhaustion of the nervous system.

60 pills, 60 cts.  
Economy size, 180 pills, \$1.50.



## COUNTRY GUIDE PUZZLE CORNER

PRIZE WINNERS FOR NOVEMBER  
SENIOR CLUE WORD PUZZLE

Congratulations to: John M. Kochan, Insinger, Sask., and Henry A. Conner, Deloraine, Man., who sent in correct solutions and will share First and Second Prizes equally. Third and Fourth Prizes will be divided equally among the following who sent in solutions containing one error each: Mrs. V. E. Person, Fairy Glen, Sask.; M. L. Jackson, Ioco, B.C.; and H. Coldwell, Verwood, Sask.

### CORRECT SOLUTION

Across

1, paratrooper; 7, as; 9, oboe; 10, nib; 12, oft; 13, dun; 15, ha; 16, A.D.; 17, tuna; 19, diver; 21, lap; 23, grebe; 28, ohm; 29, melon; 32, lo; 34, into; 36, Koran; 38, or; 39, elder; 43, also; 44, vacant; 47, rill; 49, tr.; 50, use; 51, juggling; 53, sea; 54, area; 55, B.I.; 56, foyers; 57, scowl.

Down

1, penal; 2, rob; 3, toot; 4, refute; 5, on; 6, elude; 8, smart; 11, Ida; 14, nib; 15, he; 18, agreed; 20, vet; 22, photo; 24, choral; 25, am; 26, plaint; 27, mistrust; 30, okra; 31, no; 33, on; 35, gesture; 37, R.C.A.; 40, logger; 41, evill; 42, wile; 45, can; 46, trail; 48, leaf; 51, jay; 52, gas; 55, b.w.

### JUNIOR CLUE WORD PUZZLE

Congratulations to Patricia Hogan, Excel, Alberta, who sent in a solution containing no errors and wins First Prize. Second and Third Prizes will be divided equally among the following who sent in solutions containing one error each: Orville Hamm, Bruno, Sask.; Shirley Stouffer, Shaunavon, Sask.; Alex McDonald, St. Andrews West, Ontario; Mary Buitenhuis, Raymore, Sask.; Joan Hamilton, Warrenton, Man.; Alice B. Oliver, Tangleflags, Sask.; Joan Ferguson, Marwayne, Alta.; Janet MacPherson, 1116 9th Ave. N.W., Moose Jaw, Sask.

### CORRECT SOLUTION

Across

1, monkey; 7, folio; 9, o.b.; 10, droll; 13, Jon; 15, dermal; 16, oxtail; 18, en; 19, yoicks; 20, lob; 22, Hyla; 23, use; 25, nee; 27, in; 28, lo; 29, greens; 31, bar; 32, ale.

Down

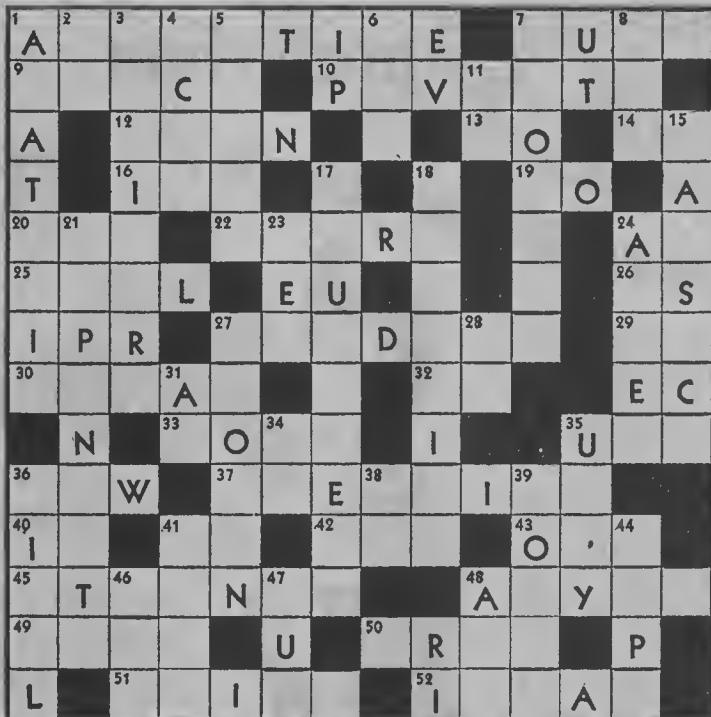
2, of; 3, noontide; 4, K.L.B.; 5, yodels; 6, fall; 8, comely; 11, R.R.; 12, lanolin; 13, joyful; 14, oxo; 15, diking; 17, a.c.; 21, bans; 22, heel; 24, sob; 26, era; 30, E.E.

# COUNTRY GUIDE PUZZLE CORNER

All puzzles must be mailed by January 31, 1944. Prize winners will be notified by mail as soon as the contests are judged. Correct solutions and prize winners' names will be published in the March issue. Prizes will be awarded to the contestants who send in the correct or nearest correct solutions. In the event of ties, prizemoney will be divided equally among tieing contestants. The judges' decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into regarding these contests.

Individuals who have won two prizes in these puzzles since January, 1942, will automatically be excluded from further prize lists.

## SENIOR PUZZLE



To The Country Guide, Winnipeg, Canada.  
I agree to abide by the judges' decision.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

P.O. \_\_\_\_\_

Box or R.R. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Prov. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print name and address)

If prizemoney will be accepted in War Savings Stamps, check here.

### ACROSS

1, truce; 7, means of disposing of refuse; 9, used in building; 10, destitution; 12, part of the body; 13, exclamation indicating surprise; 14, exclamation of inquiry; 16, infantry (abbr.); 19, proceed; 20, small child; 22, collective noun, meaning all the plants growing in a territory; 24, since; 25, precious stone; 26, steamship (abbr.); 27, kind of shoe consisting of a sole strapped to the foot (pl.); 29, post office (abbr.); 30, pertaining to the crown or sovereign; 32, company (abbr.); 33, small implement; 35, short for "unknown"; 36, work with needle and thread; 37, expression of salutation; 40, into; 41, the (French); 42, speak or tell; 43, variation of "old" (poetical); 45, part of a violin (pl.); 48, bottomless gulf; 49, a continent; 50, one of the Great Lakes; 51, water saturated with salt; 52, insert one material into another to form a pattern, as in linoleum.

### DOWN

1, slaughterhouse for cattle, sheep, etc.; 2, rural route (abbr.); 3, pertaining to the armed forces; 4, monumental portrait statue; 5, light rowboat; 6, animal found about the farm; 7, stout coarse shoe (pl.); 8, kind of grain; 11, same as 14 across; 15, small stuffed cushion or footstool; 17, unlimited; 18, ability; 21, adversaries; 23, grassland; 24, species of the poplar; 27, catchword, usually identified with a particular group or party; 28, exclamation of surprise; 31, by; 34, either; 35, hideous; 36, kind of hemp; 38, each (abbr.); 39, name of the inventor of dynamite; 41, one who deceives; 44, catch sight of; 46, man has normally twelve pairs (sing.); 47, revolver or pistol; 48, Scottish for "own."

**RULES**—One solution will be accepted from each home. Two solutions will be accepted if entry is accompanied by a subscription (50c or \$1.00—your own or a friend's) to The Country Guide. The subscription MUST be paid for by the person who is to receive the subscription—subscriptions paid for by someone other than the recipient will be cancelled. When sending in a subscription with your entry please note the following details ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER and enclose it with your entry: Name, address, box or rural route number, amount enclosed. Non-subscribers' entries must be accompanied by a subscription to The Country Guide.

## JUNIOR PUZZLE

ONLY BOYS AND GIRLS UNDER 20 YEARS OF AGE MAY HAVE A TRY  
AT THIS PUZZLE



### PRIZES

First	\$5.00
Second	3.00
Third	2.00

To The Country Guide, Winnipeg, Man.  
I agree to abide by the judges' decision.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

P.O. \_\_\_\_\_

Box or R.R. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Age. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print name and address)

If prizemoney will be accepted in War Savings Stamps, check here.

### ACROSS

1, caused by fire; 5, cotton may be purchased in this form; 9, indefinite article; 10, give up or relinquish claim to anything; 11, river in Missouri; 13, animal with long shaggy hair often seen in a zoo; 15, performers on the stage or screen; 17, Army Ordnance Department (abbr.); 18, not off; 20, editor (abbr.); 22, company of persons united in a common purpose; 25, pertaining to the Christmas season; 27, since; 29, uncoined gold or silver in the shape of bars, ingots, etc.; 32, straight slender stick; 34, thin flat piece of tile-like material used for roofing; 35, kind of tree; 36, pile where the dead are burned.

### DOWN

2, East Indian native sailor or army servant; 3, structure or organization of the body; 4, ancient vessel for carrying water; 5, protection for the clothes as worn by a child at table; 6, vouch or verify; 7, any substance used to produce fermentation, as in bread making; 12, The Supreme Being; 14, make red in color; 16, thus; 19, nota bene (abbr.); 21, suffusion of the cheeks or face with red; 23, harmony existing between societies or nations; 24, farmers usually have one or more; 26, a measure (in inches) chiefly for cloth, now little used; 28, same as 16 down; 30, to drink, or lick up, as a cat or dog; 31, over (poetical); 33, District Attorney (abbr.).

For prizewinners in November issue see page 45.

## For the Home Sewer



No. 3633 — Tailored shirtwaist, becoming to the larger figure. Designed for sizes 12, 14 and 16 years, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48 inches bust. Size 36 requires 3 1/8 yards 35-inch material.

No. 2065—Smart suit for the school girl. Designed for sizes 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16 years. Size 10 requires 2 1/8 yards 39-inch material.

No. 3669—A soft, pretty style for dress-up or everyday. Designed for sizes 12, 14 and 16 years, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48 inches bust. Size 36 requires 3 3/4 yards 39-inch material.

No. 3439—A gay young frock with smart applique. Designed for sizes 11, 13, 15, 17 and 19 years. Size 15 requires 3 yards 39-inch material with 1/8 yard of each color for the applique.



No. 3470—Housecoat or dress, as you desire. Designed for sizes 12, 14 and 16 years, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust. Size 16 requires 5 yards 39-inch material for housecoat.



No. 3667—Pretty jumper for the younger set. Designed for sizes 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. Size 8 requires 1 1/2 yards 35-inch material for the blouse, 1 1/8 yards 54-inch material for the jumper.

No. 3656—For the tiny tot of the family. Designed for sizes 6 months, 1, 2 and 3 years. Size 2 requires 1 1/8 yards 35-inch material with 1/4 yards contrasting, and 2 1/4 yards ruffling.

Patterns, 15 cents each.

Fashion Books, 15 cents each.

Be sure to write correct number and size of pattern wanted.

Write name and address plainly.

Address order to The Pattern Department, The Country Guide, Winnipeg, Manitoba.



# Handy Readers' Reference to Guide Advertisers of 1943

Herewith The Country Guide supplies its readers with an Annual Directory to all display advertisers who have used our columns during 1943. From time to time readers write us asking about ads. they have seen but cannot locate in their back issues. It is hoped that this Annual Directory will help solve this problem for them and for others who may not have thought to write us.

The Directory shows the name of each display advertiser and lists the product or products he has advertised in The Guide during 1943. In addition, those adver-

tisers who are offering our readers literature, samples, etc., are numbered. For readers who may desire any of this material a coupon is provided. Please write your name and address plainly and enter the number or numbers corresponding with the items you want.

Where any conditions such as postage, labels, etc., are required, same is noted and must be sent in with your coupon.

ADVERTISER	PRODUCTS ADVERTISED	OFFER TO READERS	ADVERTISER	PRODUCTS ADVERTISED	OFFER TO READERS
Aeroxon.	Fly Catchers.		Knox Co.	Cystex, Kidney and Bladder Remedy.	
Alta. Seed Growers Assn. Ltd.	Seed Growers.		66 Lakeview Poultry Farm.	Baby Chicks.	Catalog and Price List.
1 Amercan Hide & Fur.	Raw Furs Wanted.	Price List and Shipping Tags.	1. F. Laucks Co.	Velvo Paints.	Free Literature.
American Pad and Textile.	Walker Overalls etc.		67 Laurentian Agencies.	Cyanogas—Exterminator.	Free sample and recipe book.
2 Animal Trap Co.	Traps.	Booklet.	68 Lallemand's.	Lallemand's Yeast Cakes.	Free book, trial offer.
3 Asco Pharmacal.	Rheumatic, Headache and Cold Remedy.	Free trial offer.	69 Lanzeette, Annette.	Superfluous Hair Remover.	
J. H. Ashdown Hardware Co.	"Diamond A" Paint.		Lewis-Howe Co.	Nature's Remedy (NR).	Institutional.
Astone.	Fruit Preserver.		Life Insurance Service.	Rat-nip—Exterminator.	
4 Banff School of Fine Arts.	Theatre, Music, Art.	Prospectus.	Liquid Veneer Corp.	Monuments.	Free Catalog.
5 Bank of Montreal.	Banking Service—Institutional.	Free folder.	70 Lo's Stone Works Ltd.	Love's Flavors.	School Book Covers and Xmas Leaflet.
Bank of Nova Scotia.	Banking Service.		71 Love—The Flavor Man.		
6 Baribeau & Sons.	Washing Blue.	Blue shaker 30c.	Lowe Bros.	Paints and Varnishes.	
Battle Pharmaceuticals.	Vitamin Pills.		72 Lyman's Agencies.	Tintex Dyes.	Free booklet.
Bayer-Semesan Co.	Ceresan.		McCabe Bros.	Poultry Livestock Supplement.	
B.C. Sugar Refining Co.	Rogers Golden Syrup.		73 McCall-Frontenac Co.	Red Indian Lubricants.	Free booklet and tractor check-up.
7 Beatty Bros.	Pumps.	Free booklet.	W. G. Macdonald.	Tobacco.	
8 Beery School of Horsemanship.	Course in Horse Training.	Free booklet.	Mantle Lamp Co. Inc.	Aladdin Mantle Lamps.	
9 Dr. Bell Medicine Co.	Veterinary Remedies.	Free booklet.	Marshall Wells Ltd.	Stoves, Paint, Roofing, etc.	
10 Bollvar Hatcheries.	Baby Chicks.	Price list and catalog.	Martin Dennis.	Lexol Leather Preservative.	
11 Brathwaite Ltd.	Stomach and Indigestion Remedy.	Free booklet.	Martin-Senour.	Paints.	
Bray Hatchery.	Baby Chicks.		Massey-Harris Co. Ltd.	Farm Machinery and Tractor Conservation.	
British American Oil Co.	Lubricants.		J. L. Mathieu Co.	Cough Remedy.	
Bristol-Myers (Ipana).	Ipana Tooth Paste.		74 McFayden Seed Co.	Garden Seeds.	Free Seed List.
Broders.	Canned Vegetables.		75 McKenzie-Stephenson Co.	"Leytosan".	Flower Collection and Introductory Offer 10c.
W. K. Buckley.	Ointment.		76 McMillan Fur and Wool Co.	Wool Wanted.	Illustrated book free.
12 Building Products.	Roofing.	Free booklet (specify).	Membra Pectin.	Membra Seals & Pectin.	Information.
Burgess Dry Cells Ltd.	Burgess Batteries.		Miles Laboratories.	Vitamin Pills.	
Burns & Co.	Poultry Supplements.		77 E. S. Miller Hatcheries.	Baby Chicks.	Catalog.
13 Byer's Flour Mills.	Sunnyboy Cereal.	Free Warplane Album and World Map.	78 Miln Memorials.	Monuments.	Catalog.
14 Can. Aberdeen-Angus Assn.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.	Literature.	Minard's Liniment.	Liniment.	
Can. Bank of Commerce.	Banking Service.		Miner Rubber Co.	Rubber Company.	
Can. Bankers Assn.	Institutional.		Minneapolis-Moline Company.	Farm Machinery and Tractors.	
Can. Carborundum Co.	Farm Sharpening Tools.		79 Monarch Life Assurance Co.	Insurance Salesmen Wanted.	
15 Can. Cement Co. Ltd.	Concrete.	Free booklet (specify).	80 Monarch Lumber Co. Ltd.	Farms for Sale.	
Can. Co-operative Wool Growers.	Wool Wanted.		81 Monarch Machinery Co.	Grain Grinder.	
16 Can. Cottons Limited.	Kingcot Oenlm.	Free booklet.	82 Mount Royal Gardens.	Animal Trap Construction.	
Can. Fairbanks Morse Co.	Lighting Plants, Washing Machines, Water Systems, Mechanical Equip.		83 J. H. Mufford & Sons.	Baby Chicks.	
Can. Industries Ltd.	Nicotine Sulphate Insecticide.		84 Mumford Medland.	Oil Clarifiers... Machinery Belting.	
17 Can. Jersey Cattle Club.	Jersey Cattle.	Information.	85 Mutual Life Assurance Co.	Life Insurance.	
18 Can. Johns Manville.	Building Materials.	Booklet (10c and specify).	North American Dye.	Sunset Dyes.	
Can. National Carbon Co. Ltd.	Eveready Batteries.		87 North Amer. Lubrication.	Lubricants.	Free catalog and price list.
Can. National Express Co.	Express Money Orders.		Northrop & Lyman.	Or. Thomas' Remedies.	
Can. Oil Companies.	White Rose Petroleum Products.		Noxzema Chemical Co.	Noxzema Skin Cream.	
19 Can. Packers Ltd.	Shur-Gain Hog and Poultry Concentrate.	Free booklet.	88 Oakland Hatcheries.	Baby Chicks.	Free catalog.
Can. Poultryman.	Poultry Magazine.		Ogilvie Flour Mills Co.	"Miracle" Livestock Feeds.	
20 Can. Shorthorn Assn.	Shorthorn Cattle.	Free Literature.	Oldfield, Kirby & Gardner.	Farm Lands for Sale.	
Can. Shredded Wheat Co. Ltd.	Shredded Wheat.		Oliver Limited.	Farm Machinery.	
21 Can. Starch Co.	Crown Brand Corn Syrup—Can. Corn Starch.	Cook book.	Osmose Wood Preserving Co.	Fence Post Preserver.	
22 Can. Von.	Indigestion Remedy.	Free sample and booklet.	Ostreex.	Tonic.	
Can. Westinghouse Co. Ltd.	Electric Appliances Company.		89 E. R. Page Co.	Pile Remedy.	Trial offer.
23 Capitol Carpet Co.	Rugs.	Catalog.	Pied Piper Laboratories.	Externinator—Rats.	
J. I. Case Co.	Tractors and Farm Machinery Conservation.		90 Lydia E. Pinkham.	Female Remedy.	Trial offer.
Caterpillar Tractor Co.	Tractor Conservation.		Pioneer Hatchery.	Baby Chicks.	
Centaur Co.	Casterla (children's laxative).		91 Prairie Electric Hatcheries.	Cough Mixture.	Catalog.
Chase Medicine Co.	Kidney and Liver Remedy.		92 Pratt Food Co.	Insecticide, Livestock Remedies.	Information and folder.
24 Chicago Vocational Training Corp.	Vocational School.	Information.	93 Pringle Electric Hatcheries.	Baby Chicks.	Calendar, catalog and prices.
25 Chipman Chemicals.	Warble Fly Powder.	Price list.	Pulp & Paper Industry of Can.	Message to Farmers re Cutting Pulpwood.	
Chrstle, Brown & Co. Ltd.	Christie's Biscuits.		R.O.P. Co-operative Hatchery.	Baby Chicks.	
26 Church & Dwight Ltd.	Cow Brand Baking Soda.	Bkt. on cooking and medicinal uses.	Railway Assn.	Transportation Companies.	
27 Cockshutt Plow Co. Ltd.	Farm Implement Conservation.	Free booklet.	94 Ramsay Co.	Patents.	
Coffield Washer.	Washing Machines.		95 Rapld-Grip & Batten Ltd.	Name Plates and Letterheads, etc.	Free information.
28 Coleman Lamp & Stove Co. Ltd.	Coleman Lamps, Lanterns, Ranges, Irons.	Free booklet.	Reekitt & Colemen.	Nugget Shoe Polish.	Information (specify).
Congoleum Ltd.	Congoleum Rugs.		Regina Hatcheries.	Baby Chicks.	
Consolidated Mining & Smelting.	Elephant Brand Fertilizer.	Information.	96 Reliable Hatcheries.	Baby Chicks.	Catalog calendar, price list.
29 Consolidated Motors.	Used Cars.		Renfrew Machinery Co.	Renfrew Separators.	Catalog.
Creamettes Ltd.	Macaroni Products.		97 Rennie Seeds Ltd., Wm. Dr. Rinehart's Handy Hog Holder Co.	Garden Seeds.	
Cudahy Packing Co.	Old Outhch Cleanser.		Hog and Pig Holder.		
30 Cutler Labs.	Animal Disease Control.	Free book.	98 Riverside Sales Co. Ltd.	Weeders.	Free information.
Dall's Ltd.	Linens and Laces.		Royal Bank of Canada.	Banking Service.	
31 Delano, F. H.	Rheumatism Remedy.	Sample (10c).	99 Rump & Sendall Ltd.	Baby Chicks.	Free book.
O.D.D. Co.	Skin Remedy.		Salada Tea of Canada Ltd.	Salada Tea.	
John Deere Plow Co. Ltd.	Farm Machinery Conservation.		100 Saskatoon Feeder Show.	Livestock Show and Auction Sale.	Information and prize list.
32 The Oelavalo Co. Ltd.	Separators, Milkers.		101 Sask. Feeder Show.	Cattle Show and Sale.	Particulars.
33 Dom. Agric. Credit Co.	Livestock Credit Terms.		102 Savage Arms.	Rifles.	
34 Dom. Dept. of Agriculture.	Hog Production.		103 Scott Hde Co. Ltd.	Raw Fleece Wool Wanted.	Information.
Dom. Opt. of Labour.	Nat. Selective Service Regulations and Mobilization of Single Men.		Sealer Ring Rethreader Co.	Sealer Ring Rethreader.	
35 Dom. Forest Nursery Station.	Trees.	Free trees.	Shell Oil Co.	Livestock Spray.	
Dom. Fur Auction Sales Co.	Fur Auction.		104 Sherwin Williams.	Paints and Linseed Oil Meal.	
36 Dom. Govt.	Warble Fly Control.	Information.	Sifton Wool Products.	Wool Carding Machines.	Free catalog.
Dom. Govt. (Dept. Agric.)	Message re Sale of Feed Grains.		105 Singer Sewing Machine Co.	Rupture Remedy.	Information.
37 Dom. Govt. (Dept. of Finance)	War Loans.	Free Information.	Socony Vacuum Co.	Mobiloil Lubricants.	Information and trial offer.
38 Dom. Govt. (Dept. Labor).	Message to Farmers and Farm Workers.	Free booklet.	Somerville Co.	Baby Chick Feeders.	
Dom. Govt. (Dept. Mun. & Supp.).	Rationing, Fuel, etc.		106 J. H. Speers & Co.	Grain Seed Wanted.	Free catalog.
Dom. Govt. (W.P.T.B.)	Rationing.		Spoth Medical Co.	Veterinary Remedy.	
Oil. Oilcloth Ltd.	Linoleum.		107 Standard Brands Ltd.	Magic Baking Powder, Gillett's Lye, Royal Yeast.	
39 Domilon Seed House.	Garden Seeds.	Seed and Nursery Book.	108 Standard Importing & Sales.	Cream Separators, Washing Machines, Ranges, Grain Crushers, etc.	Free booklet.
Dom. Textile Co.	Textile Co. Report.		Stanfield's Ltd.	Stanfield's Underwear.	Free particulars.
40 Double Duty Products Co.	Bakn-Makr—Eggshell Maker.	Free literature.	109 Steele Briggs Seed Co.	Scrap Metal Wanted.	Catalog.
Dunlop Tire & Rubber Co.	Beiting.		Sterling Products—Arpirin.	Aspirin.	
41 J. A. Dunnigan.	Livestock Loss Prevention.	Free booklet.	110 Stewart Electric Hatchery.	Diamond Dyes.	Price list.
42 Early Hatcheries.	Baby Chicks.	Catalog price list.	Strachan Seed.	Baby Chicks.	Free catalog.
T. Eaton Co.	Mall Order House.		Sun Life Assur. Co. of Canada.	Garden Seeds.	
Ex-Lax Co.	Chocolate Coated Laxative.		Swift Canadian Co.	Poultry & Hog Concentrate.	
Fairview Chemical.	Bot and Worm Remedies, etc.	Particulars free.	112 Alex. Taylor Hatchery.	Baby Chicks.	Circular and price list.
43 Fetherstonhaugh & Co.	Patent Service.		Tobacco By-Products Co.	"Black Leaf 40"—Insecticide.	Free bulletin and catalog.
Findlays Ltd.	Coal and Wood Range.		113 Tobe's Treary.	Blueberries.	
Firestone Tire & Rubber Co.	Tractor Tire Conservation.		114 Trench's Remedies Ltd.	Nerve and Stomach Tablets.	Free book.
A. C. Fisher.	Skin Remedy.		115 Troy Chemical Co.	Savoss Veterinary Remedy.	Free book.
Flexible Shaft Co. Ltd.	Stewart Electric Clippers and Sharpening Blade.		116 United Grain Growers Ltd.	International—Hall Ins., Livestock Feeds and Concentrates.	Information.
44 Flowercraft.	Chenille Flowers.	Free price list.	United Motors Ltd.	A.C. Spark Plugs and Oil Filters.	
45 Ford Motor Co.	Tractors and Institutional.	Free Tractor Manual.	117 Universal Premium Co.	Agents Wanted.	Premium offer and free catalog.
Forever Industries.	Grain Cleaners.		118 Vapo Cresolene Co.	Whooping Cough and Cold Remedy.	Free booklet.
Chas. E. Frost.	Fry Cadbury Co.		Vlek Chemical Co.	Vlek's Va-tro-nol and Vaporub.	
Gen. Steel Wares Ltd.	Steel Wares Company.		119 Victory Tool Co.	Canning Sealers.	
46 Globelite Batteries Ltd.	Lighting Plant Batteries.	Information.	120 VloBln Ltd.	Rex Wheat Germ Oil.	
Globe Bedding.	Beds, Springs, Mattresses.		121 S. Vessot Co. Limited.	Grain Grinders.	
Goodrich Rubber Co.	Tire Conservation.		122 J. R. Watkins Co.	Hooked Rugs.	
47 Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co.	Weekly Publication.	Free Booklets.	Wm. R. Warner Co.	Dealers Wanted.	Free particulars.
48 Gospel Witness.	Gasoline and Oil Products.	Sample copy.	123 Wawanesa Mutual.	Sloan's Liniment.	
Great Western Garment Co.	Clothing.		Western Clock Co.	Insurance.	Free financial statement.
49 Groth's Cooler Ltd.	Electric Fencer.	Literature.	124 Western Gypsum.	Building Materials.	
Grove Labs.	Vitamin Tablets.		West. Steel Products.	Master Mechanic Overalls.	
50 Gutta Percha Co.	Rubber Company.		W. F. Young Inc.	Granaries.	
51 Gypsum Lime & Alabastine.	Alabastine-Gyproc.		125 Zonite Products Corp.	Absorbine Liniment.	
52 Habaeure.	Meat Curing Compound.			Zonitors for Feminine Hygiene.	Free booklet.
53 J. C. Hallman.	Shur-Shock Electric Fencer.				
54 Hambley Electric Hatcheries.	Baby Chicks and Poultry Remedies.				
55 Chris. Hansen Laboratories.	Butter Coloring.				
Harold & Thompson.	Binder Twine.				
Hart-Emerson Co.	"Hart," "Garden City" Feeders and Grain Register.				
56 Health Products.	Health Care.	Free book.			
57 Health Products.	Herbal Remedies.	Free botanical guide.			
58 Health Products.	Stomach and Indigestion Remedy.	Free booklet.			
H. J. Heinz Co.	Canned Goods—Institutional.				
Dr. Hess & Clark.	Poultry and Livestock Tonics and Remedies.				
59 Hodgson Rubber Co.	Sheep and Hog Supplements.				
60 Hudson's Bay Co., Land.	Tire Repairing.	Price list.			
Hudson's Bay Co. (Wholesale).	Farm Lands For Sale.				
John A. Huston Co.	Tea and Coffee.	Free booklet (specify).			
Imperial Bank of Canada.	Pyrex Ware.				
61 Imperial Oil.	Banking Service and Annual Report.				
Imperial Tobacco Sales.	Ogden's Fine Cut Tobacco.				
Int. Fibreboard Ltd.	Masonite Ten-Test Building Materials.	Information (specify).			
63 International Harvester Co.</					

## PURE-BRED BREEDERS' DIRECTORY

Cost: \$3.00 per line for 6 months;  
\$6.00 per year.

The livestock breeders listed below advertise to supply good stock at reasonable prices. They will gladly send particulars on request.

## Aberdeen-Angus

Chas. Elliott, R.R. 2, South Edmonton, Alta.  
Cathro and Anderson, R.R. 4, Calgary. Accr.

## LIVESTOCK

## VARIOUS

## PRODUCE PROFITABLE PIGS



Western Canadian farmers and stock raisers have time and again proved the effectiveness of BAKN-MAKR as the ideal mineral supplement for Hogs and Cattle. Exceptionally high in Calcium, BAKN-MAKR prevents stunting or crippling giving your Hogs every chance to produce fast gains.

For FREE literature on profitable pigs write

PRICE  
\$145  
PER  
100 lbs.

DOUBLE DUTY PRODUCTS CO.  
812 BOYO BLDG. WINNIPEG

NOW IS THE TIME  
TO DIVERSIFY  
WITH CATTLE OR SHEEP  
Enquire about our 3-Yr. Credit Terms  
Interest 6%.

Dominion Agricultural Credit Co., Ltd.  
Canada Life Bldg. Regina, Sask.

HEAVES, LAMENESS, COUGHS.—HEAVES, Rough Coat, Stocking Up, Indigestion, General Debility and Coughs overcome with Fleming's Tonic Heave Powders. One month's treatment \$1.35. Fleming Brothers Limited, 420 Wellington West, Toronto.

LUMP JAW.—DO NOT KILL YOUR ANIMALS because they have Lump Jaw. Treat them with Fleming's Lump Jaw Remedy. Simple and easy to apply. Results guaranteed. \$2.75 bottle. Fleming Brothers Limited, 420 Wellington West, Toronto.

SPAVIN — CURB — RINGBONE: OVERCOME lameness with Fleming's Spavin Remedies. Spavin Liquid is used for Bog Spavin, Splint, Curb, Wind Galls, Stifle Lameness, etc. Use the Spavin Paste for old-established cases of chronic lameness caused by Ringbone, Sidebone and Bone Spavin. Either preparation \$2.50 each, or 2 for \$4.50. Fleming Brothers Limited, 420 Wellington West, Toronto.

SWEENEY. — OUR SWEENEY BLISTER brings back the shrunken muscles. Simple to apply. Work during treatment. \$1.35. All Fleming's Remedies sold with money-back guarantee. Fleming's Vest Pocket Veterinary Adviser tells simple, inexpensive home treatments for sick animals. Price 10c. Advice given free. Fleming Brothers Limited, 420 Wellington West, Toronto.

"HOW TO BREAK AND TRAIN HORSES"—A book every farmer and horseman should have. It is free; no obligation. Simply address Beery School of Horsemanship, Dept. 571, Pleasant Hill, Ohio.

## F FARMS AND REAL ESTATE

H B C

Raw and Improved  
FARMS  
FOR SALE

— IN —  
MANITOBA, SASKATCHEWAN  
and ALBERTA

CLEAR  
TITLES  
•  
SPECIAL  
TERMS

HAY AND  
GRAZING  
LEASES  
•  
HAY AND  
TIMBER  
PERMITS

MANAGER, LAND DEPT.  
HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY,  
WINNIPEG.

Sec. Tp. Rge. West Mer.  
East

Name .....

Address .....

Hudson's Bay Company.  
INCORPORATED 2nd MAY, 1670

## THE FARMERS' MARKET PLACE

## A Profitable Place To Advertise

## RATES AND REGULATIONS

RATES—15¢ per word per insertion. Set 6 point solid with the first line in capitals. Minimum charge \$1.00. HOW TO CALCULATE COST—Count two initials as a full word, also count each set of four figures as a full word, as for example: "Farm for sale, 2,100 acres, J. G. Doe, Doesville, Manitoba," contains nine words. Be sure and sign your name and address. Do not have any answers come to The Guide. The name and address must be counted as part of the advertisement and paid for at the same rate.

REGULATIONS—All advertisements must be classified under the heading which applies most closely to the article advertised. All orders for Classified Advertising must be accompanied by cash. Advertisements for this page must reach us before the 30th for publication in the next month's issue.

COMMERCIAL CLASSIFIED DISPLAY—\$18.20 per inch flat. Ads. limited to one column in width and must not exceed six inches in depth. Combination condensed display permits one or two display lines in 10 point (\$2.60 for each display line per issue), balance set 6 point solid at 15¢ per word.

ADDRESS ALL LETTERS TO THE COUNTRY GUIDE, WINNIPEG, MAN.

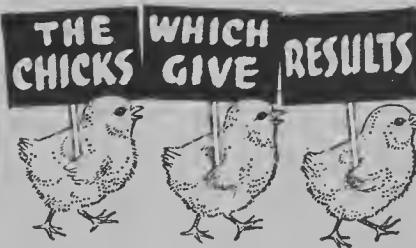
CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY, FARM Lands, partially improved and unimproved, also grazing land in the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Desirable terms. For particulars apply to Asst. Supt. Sales, 922 Dept. Natural Resources, Calgary. 7-tf

## FUR FARMING

DOROVILLE RABBITRY, PARKSVILLE, B.C. Angoras, Flemish Giants, New Zealands. Send stamp for catalog.

## POULTRY

## BABY CHICKS



## PLEASE NOTE!

that we are fully booked up on shipping dates between March 20th and May 20th, 1944, and will not be able to accept any more orders for shipment between those dates. Will you therefore please mark your orders for shipment either before March 20th or after May 20th. To get "The Chicks Which Give Results" you will have to place your order NOW, and if possible give us a choice of shipping dates and we will advise you on which one we will be able to take care of your order. You will want to get your share of these famous chicks again this year—so remember

"It's Results That Count"

Write today for prices and particulars.

Rump & Sendall LTD.

BOX G LANGLEY PRAIRIE, B.C.

## HAMBLEY

Canada's Largest Hatchery  
HATCHING EGGS  
WANTED

We need full or part season's supply from several hundred more Government Approved and Blood Tested Flocks. We pay top prices. Write us today for full particulars.

12 HATCHERIES AT YOUR SERVICE  
Although we are increasing capacity approximately 25%, advance orders indicate the "sold out" sign will have to be hung up earlier this year. If you have not yet placed your order, we urge you do not lose a minute in sending reasonable deposit. State quantity, breed, date required.

HAMBLEY'S CHICK ZONE

The Life Saver for Baby Chicks. One teaspoonful per quart in the chicks' first drink sterilizes tiny crop and digestive tract. 12-oz. 75¢ postpaid; 6-oz. 40¢ postpaid; large 40-oz. \$1.00, Express collect; ½-gal. \$1.50 collect; 1 gal. \$2.75 collect.

J. J. HAMBLEY HATCHERIES  
Winnipeg, Brandon, Regina, Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton, Portage, Dauphin, Swan Lake, Abbotsford, B.C.

## Order OAKLAND Chicks

Direct from this Ad.

	Standard	XX Chicks	
Mixed Sex	100	50	100
Wh. Leghorns	\$14.25	\$7.60	\$15.75
B. Rocks	15.25	8.10	16.75
New Hamp's.	15.25	8.10	16.75
Pullets			
Wh. Leghorns	28.50	14.75	31.00
B. Rocks	24.00	12.50	27.00
New Hamp's.	24.00	12.50	27.00
COCKERELS—XX Wh. Leghorns \$5.00 per 100; Standard Wh. Leghorns \$3.00 per 100. After April 17, \$4.00 per 100.			
100% live arrival guaranteed; Pullets 98% accuracy.			

OAKLAND  
HATCHERIES  
Brandon - WINNIPEG - Dauphin

IF YOU DO NOT FIND WHAT YOU ARE looking for advertised here, why not insert a "Want Ad." in this column? You will obtain surprising results at a small cost.

## MILLER'S CHAMPION CHICKS

## Will Produce MORE EGGS for 1944!

Make sure of your CHAMPION CHICKS by placing your order with deposit NOW! All chicks from Govt. Appr. Blood-tested breeders. 100% live arrival. Pullets 98% accuracy.

Wh. Leghorns | Rox, Reds, Hamps.

100—	Mix. Full. Chks.	100—	Mix. Full. Chks.
14.25	28.50	3.00	15.25
7.60	14.75	2.00	8.10
4.05	7.60	1.00	4.30

24.00 11.00  
6.00 3.00

"AA" (Regd.) CHAMPION CHICKS with Breeding Certificate from

Special Pedigree Matings

100—	15.75	31.00	4.00	16.75	27.00	12.00
50—	8.35	16.00	2.50	8.85	14.00	6.50
25—	4.45	8.25	1.25	4.70	7.25	3.25

We fully protect you against any price reductions. All prices subject to change without notice.

Write for FREE Catalog.

## The E. S. MILLER HATCHERIES

"Manitoba's Oldest Established Government-Approved Hatcheries"

258 S. Main Street | Railway Ave. S. Winkler, Man.

## Don't Keep Chickens Make Them Keep You

## RAISE Bolivar R.O.P. Sired

LEGHORN, BARRED ROCK, R.I. RED OR APPROVED NEW HAMPHIRES

Prices per 100 Unsexed Pullets  
Leghorns ..... \$14.00 \$29.00  
Rocks, Reds, N. Hamps. ..... 15.00 26.00

SPECIAL GRADE CHICKS  
Leghorns ..... \$16.00 \$33.00  
Rocks, Reds, N. Hamps. ..... 17.00 30.00  
Cockerels per 100—Leghorns \$3.00; Heavy Breeds \$10.00

Further Particulars on Request.  
There are more BOLIVAR chicks sold than any strain in British Columbia.

"THERE MUST BE A REASON"

## BOLIVAR LIMITED

R.R. No. 4, Pacific Highway

New Westminster B.C.

A Specialized R.O.P. Breeding Plant.

TAYLOR-MADE CHICKS  
XXX PROFIT CHICKS

	100	50
White Leghorns	\$15.75	\$8.35
Barred Rocks	16.75	8.85
New Hampshire's: R.I. Reds	16.75	8.85
Minors	17.75	9.35
Wyandottes: White Rocks	17.75	9.35
Buff Orpingtons	18.75	9.85

## HATCHING EGGS

We have breeders in Ontario supplying us with Hatching Eggs from Approved flocks headed by pedigree males. Chick orders filled in rotation. Send your order NOW.

## ALEX. TAYLOR HATCHERIES

362 Furby St. Phone 33 352 Winnipeg, Man.

## ORDER YOUR CHICKS NOW!

Plan your poultry needs NOW to avoid disappointment next spring. A small deposit will book your order and give you preference of delivery dates. Write for 1944 catalog.

Tune in our Old Time Program over CFCN, Calgary, 1010 K.C. Thursday nights 9.30 p.m.

## STEWART ELECTRIC HATCHERIES

602C 12th Ave. W. Calgary, Alta.

## PRINGLE HIGH QUALITY CHICKS

For those unable to obtain March chicks we are making available a good supply of chicks for February delivery. Order immediately. Write for New 1944 "All-Out" Calendar Catalog.

PRINGLE ELECTRIC HATCHERIES  
Calgary Edmonton Chilliwack, B.C.

## RELIABLE BABY CHICKS

Hatched from Government Inspected and Pullorum-tested flocks. Hundreds of customers have already ordered their chicks for spring delivery. Order today with deposit. Competitive Manitoba and Saskatchewan prices! 100% live arrival at your station. Pullets 98% guaranteed. Free catalog calendar on request.

RELIABLE HATCHERIES

Winnipeg Regina Saskatoon

THOSE WONDERFUL TWEDDLE CHICKS get 'em early! We thought we'd get some rest after the 1943 peak, but there's no rest in wartime—not with a world-wide food shortage. Mighty short interlude between seasons. Looks as if the chicken and egg business had run into a perpetual peak demand. Twedde operations have already begun. New price list will be ready by the time you get this message. We offer you day-old chicks, pullets or cockerels of all the best breeds and cross-breds. All are Government Approved, blood-tested stock ready to reduce your risk to a minimum. Ready to start you with good healthy birds. Ready to lay eggs from Canada this year. Next



**Ad. Index**

Apart from giving Guide readers a ready reference to items advertised in this issue, the coupon below may be used to order literature, samples, etc., offered our readers, by our advertisers. Advertisers offering literature, samples, etc., are numbered at the left and these numbers should be used in the coupon. Where stamps, labels, etc., are required an "X" appears alongside the number. The ad. itself will tell you what to send.

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January, 1944.

**The Country Guide,**  
Winnipeg, Man.

From the items numbered I have selected the following in which I am interested in the literature, etc., offered.

Name.....

P.O. ....

Prov. ....

Numbers..... Please print plainly.



# Straight from the Grass Roots

**L**AST month the editor had a ride in a snowplane—not a long ride, but in a real honest-to-goodness snowplane, owned by the Fisheries Branch of Manitoba. It reminded him of the incident in Kelvington, two winters ago. A snowplane there was put to far different use than skimming over the fields. A fire broke out about midnight and burned down the Lockie McKinnon Block. Some two years before, Mr. R. Augustus had made the suggestion to the Kelvington Radio that the use of wind from a snowplane could be used in controlling a fire. So Fred Patrick's snowplane was brought around, anchored and started. The blast was directed, not against the burning building but against the wooden wall of a bakery, only 12 feet away. The bitterly cold blast did two things. It kept the wall of the bakery from heating up to the ignition point and the rebound kept the flames from shooting out in that direction. The main business section of the town might have been destroyed that night but for Fred's snowplane.

That was a case of men having heads on their shoulders and knowing how to use them. Good idea to keep in mind, too, just in case.

Farmers who don't keep bees are missing something. A Radville, Sask., farmer was asked by his neighbor if it was true that he was starting in the bee business. "Yes," was the reply, "I've been stung every other way I know of, and I don't want to miss anything."

**S**OME tall stories are obviously imported and worked over to suit local conditions. Others are indigenous. This one, which originally appeared in the Grande Prairie Herald Tribune, bears the marks of the native product. Cannonball Vants and Ingors Nelson start for a dance in a stock truck. Cannonball slides under the wheel and Ingors climbs in beside him. Away they go, snow, ice and snoose flying in every direction. Six miles west and they turn north. Very little snow and the same amount of road. Moose and deer dash from thicket to thicket with Cannonball right on their heels. Trees fall in all directions. Rabbits give up the ghost and die right on the spot. Ping goes something! "What's that?" asks Cannonball. "Nothing," says Ingors, "just a few Indians shooting at us with bows and arrows." Cannonball, alarmed, steps on the gas, pushes over a couple of haystacks, scares a few more moose, deer and rabbits, cuts across country, brushing a few acres of land and arrives back right at their starting point. As they slow down a gosh awful noise is heard in the back of the truck. Cannonball pulls to a stop and they get out and look in the hog box.

Here is what they found: Two dead owls, one moose, badly discombobulated, four dead rabbits, one Indian brave still living, a small papoose, half a ton of hay and enough firewood to last till seeding time.



Now that the days are so short, just why didn't they put some daylight in the cold storage lockers last summer when there was so much of it to spare?

\* \* \*

Ever hear of the custom of celebrating Kissing One Another Day, said to have been introduced by Hudson Bay Company factors amongst the Indians and still a surviving custom on some of the reserves? The men of the band go from house to house sampling the hospitality. It is said to be an ancient Scottish custom and has much to recommend it.

\* \* \*

The Dauphin Herald once heard a young lady put it very succinctly and truthfully when she philosophized in shivering tones while standing on the street corner: "Men and women are equally crazy. In the summer time women dress sensibly in cool clothes while the men swelter in suits. But when winter comes it's the women who dress foolishly while the men show some sense."

\* \* \*

**H**ERE'S a tip on how to keep the new puppy from being lonesome at night. The Riverhurst Courier told of the little Scotch Terrier Art Smith got. He was only about the size of a pint of cider and the first night he howled mournfully for his mother, or company of some kind. The next night Art put an alarm clock in the box with the puppy and it worked wonders. The clock's friendly ticking sounded like company and the little Scottie snuggled up to it and went to sleep.

\* \* \*

Button, button, who's got the button? The answer is that there are at least two ladies in western Canada who have remarkable collections of them. One is Mrs. Lydia Roy, whose collection was described by the Vegreville Observer. It is only part of a wonderful collection of curiosities and antiques. She has one button that dates back to the 17th century and several to the middle of the 18th century. One card holds only soldiers' buttons, starting with one from the coat of her grandfather, worn in the American Civil War. She has them from the Spanish-American war, the South African War, and the last World War. A great many different countries are represented; buttons made of wood, rubber, cork, tin, brass, metal and glass; plain, fancy and jewelled buttons, buttons in the shapes and colors of fruits, vegetables, animals and buildings. Three generations of her family have been adding to the collection.

Mrs. J. Meekma, of Yorkton, has a similar collection. It numbers 4,000 and they are of bone, horn, pearl, jets and vest jewels. Among her prized collection are buttons from service men's tunics from various countries. Mrs. Roy and Mrs. Meekma should correspond about their interesting hobby.

\* \* \*

**S**OME roosters in this country are out for victory too. They crow by note. Their shrill clarion is a reproduction of the opening bar of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. That opening bar consists of three shorts and a long, the Morse code for the letter V. Now V stands for Victory, as every school child knows, whether the rooster knows it or not.

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